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CENTENNIAL HISTORY

Troy, Piqua and Miami County, Ohio

AND REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS

EDITED AND COMPILED BY

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"History is Philosophy Teaching by Examples."

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PREFACE

THE aim of the publishers of this volume and of the author of the history has been to secure for the historical portion thereof full and accurate data respecting the history of the county from the time of its early settlement, and to condense it into a clear and interesting narrative. All topics and occurrences have been included that were essential to this object.

The reviews of resolute and strenuous lives which make up the biographical part of this volume, and whose authorship is for the most part independent of that of the history, are admirably calculated to foster local ties, to inculcate patriotism, and to emphasize the rewards of industry dominated by intelligent purpose. They constitute a most appropriate medium for perpetuating personal annals, and will be of incalculable value to the descendants of those commemorated. These sketches, replete with stirring incidents and intense experiences, are flavored with a strong human interest that will naturally prove to a large portion of the readers of the book its most attractive feature. In the aggregate of personal memoirs thus collated will be found a vivid epitome of the growth of Miami County, which will fitly supplement the historical statement, for its development is identified with that of the men and women to whom it is attributable.

The publishers have endeavored to pass over no feature of the work slightingly, but to fittingly supplement the editor's labors by exercising care over the minutest details of publication, and thus give to the volume the three-fold value of a readable narrative, a useful work of reference, and a tasteful ornament to the library. We believe the result has justified the care thus exercised.

Special prominence has been given to the portraits of representative citizens which appear throughout the volume, and we believe that they will prove not its least interesting feature. We have sought in this department to illustrate the different spheres of industrial and professional achievement as conspicuously as possible. To all those who have kindly interested themselves in the preparation of this work, and who have voluntarily contributed most useful information, or rendered other assistance, we hereby tender our grateful acknowledgments.

THE PUBLISHERS.

Chicago, July, 1909.

NOTE

All the biographical sketches published in this volume were submitted to their respective subjects or to the subscribers, from whom the facts were primarily obtained, for their approval or correction before going to press; and a reasonable time was allowed in each case for the return of the typewritten copies. Most of them were returned to us within the time allotted, or before the work was printed, after being corrected or revised; and these may be regarded therefore as reasonably accurate.

A few, however, were not returned to us; and, as we have no means of knowing whether they contain errors or not, we cannot vouch for their accuracy. In justice to our readers, and to render this work more valuable for reference purposes, we have indicated these uncorrected sketches by a small asterisk (*), placed immediately after the name of the subject. They will all be found on the last pages of the book.

THE PUBLISHERS.

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Thomas C. Harbaugh

History of Miami County

CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTORY AND DESCRIPTIVE

Introductory—First Lords of the Soil, the Mound Builders—Speculations and Traditions as to the Mound Builders—The Indians not the Aborigines—Coming of the White Man—Resistance of the Indians—Area of Miami County—Its Division into Twelve Townships—Topography, Elevation, Drainage—Fertility of the Soil—Disappearance of the Forests—Conditions Favorable to Agriculture—Tributaries of the Miami—Geological Foundations—Prehistoric Remains—Indian Occupancy—Early Abundance of Game.

In the preparation of this work the author will incline to the narrative rather than to the technical style. He will give the principal facts as they appeal to him, clothing them in language easily understood, leaving to the close student the disputed points and those which border on tradition. There is nothing in local history so confusing as that which borders on the obscure, and history, to be intelligible, should be stripped of the mistiness which sometimes surrounds it. The true history of a country is that of its people, for they are the makers of history.

After the discoverer comes the pioneer, who is the *avant courier* of trade, commerce, the arts and sciences. The sound of his axe is succeeded by the music of countless wheels of industry, and from small beginnings in the wilderness spring the myriad avenues of civilization which, diverging like the spokes of a wheel, complete in time the upbuilding of a community or the glory of a nation. That this is the case locally I will endeavor to show in the following pages.

There exists no doubt that the first "lords of the soil" embraced within the present borders of Miami County were a race of people known as the Mound Builders. Of this race, which vanished before the coming of the Indian, we have traces in the shape of mounds, fortifications, and relics of earth and stone. Whence came the Mound Builder and whither he went is to this day a subject for speculation. J. F. McLean, who is an authority on the Mound Builders and their works, calls them "an ancient and unknown race of people, possesing a well-developed type of civilization, who once inhabited the Valley of the Ohio." It is but fair to say that his opinion of the attainments of this people is disputed by other writers.

"This race," continues Professor McLean, "has left us no written history, but the testimony of its existence and advancement in the arts and sciences is attested in the stupendous structures consisting of mounds, walled enclosures and domestic implements, which have long attracted the attention of observers, scientists, and the public generally. The ethnologist has been intensely interested as to the type of mankind that constructed the remains. Many are the theories that have been propounded, but certain testimonies exist which enable us to arrive at plausible conclusions."

It is no longer believed that the Indian erected the squares and parallelograms found in different parts of Ohio nor the mounds which exist in various parts of this country. "The North American Indian," continues the authority above quoted, "has no habits of progressive industry. There is not one scintilla of evidence that he built these mounds. His own testimony is against it. To say the least, he was incapable of the task. For instance, one Indian tradition avers that the primitive inhabitants of Kentucky perished in a war of extermination waged against them by the red tribes, and the Indian chief Tobacco informed George Rogers Clarke of a tradition in which it was stated that there was a battle at Sandy Island which decided the fate of the ancient inhabitants. Chief Cornplanter affirmed that Ohio, and this local section as well, had once been inhabited by a white race who were familiar with the arts of which they (The Indians) knew nothing.

There is no doubt that the Indians had such traditions. They saw the various mounds and, being unable to account for them, they invented traditions which, to their romantic minds, would suit the case. The red man was a born story teller. Every campfire had its romanticist, and the wigwams that dotted the vast region through which the Miami flows heard more than one fanciful story of the vanished races. There is no definite history that all the stone implements and weapons which are found to this day within the boundaries of Miami County came from the hands of the Indian. In regard to the makers of these relics there is a large amount of speculation. Dr. Abbott and others have discovered a paleolithic man and another whom they link kindredly to the Eskimo. Then we have also the Mound Builder and the pre-historic Indian, and the latter day "Lo." That the Indian manufactured stone weapons, implements, etc., there is not much doubt. From diggings made within the Ohio Valley in 1884 the following conclusions as to how the arrow-head was formed may here be given:

"The primitive man first removed the outlying stratum of earth. On reaching the flint a large fire was made on it which caused the rock to shatter; water probably being thrown on it to hasten the work. Removing such pieces as could be detached, the process was repeated, if necessary, until the limestone below was reached and a hole made large enough to work in. The burnt portions being all taken off and thrown out of the way, clay was plastered along the upper half of the flint to protect it from the heat, and a fire built in the bottom of the hole against the larger and lower part.

"With the large boulders he broke off the upper unburned portion and carried it to some convenient level spot, where, with smaller hammers, the blocks were broken into suitable size for working. It is a singular fact that no arrow-heads or other specimens were made where these blocks were broken up, but the small pieces were always carried to another spot—sometimes only a few yards away. In making large or heavy articles, as axes, pestles, etc., that did not require careful or delicate work from the beginning, he used a hard, tough, pebble, preferring diorite or some form of quartz. With this he could knock off chips and spalls from his inchoate implement until he had removed as much of the useless portion as he could in this way; then, with light blows, he pecked over the entire surface until he had brought it to the correct outline on every side. With a piece of gritty sandstone he ground away the marks of the hammer and finally rubbed off all rough places and scratches with a softer, finer-grained stone than the first, and thus gave the specimen a smooth surface with more or less polish. All instruments for cutting or splitting had the edge made sharp and smooth by rubbing as soon as the form admitted—often before the hammer marks were effaced from other portions; and if a groove was needed it was made as soon as possible."

I have been thus particular regarding the manufacture of the stone relics of the vanished races, as gleaned from the conclusions of archæologists, for the information of the school-boy who to-day searches the farms of this county for these interesting relics. He is the coming archæologist and must take the places of those who go before him. The Mound Builder has occupied and ever will occupy the mind of the antiquarian, and his sojourn in the Miami Valley need not be enlarged upon in a work of this nature. He was the true aborigine—a term which applies only to the *first* inhabitants of a country. Many writers speak of the Indians as aborigines, which term, according to the makers of our dictionaries, is incorrect. The Indians, following the vanished races, became the *second* occupants of the soil, and henceforth when reference is made to them they will be called Indians, which is their rightful title.

In this county relics of early occupation have been found everywhere. They are numerous in some localities and infrequent in others. On the Col. Johnston farm, near Piqua, great numbers have been found, and in certain places throughout the Stillwater region. These relics are the only implement legacies left us by the races which once tenanted this section. In all probability some of the tumuli to be found within our borders would yield results if opened, and on several occasions this has been done. Some gravel pits have brought to light many skeletons, but the skulls when measured have inclined scientists to the opinion that they were the remains of Indians. Not long ago a pit on the eastern side of the county produced a perfect skull faced with a flattened copper plate, which gave credence to the assertion that the remains were those of an Indian chief of distinction. In some of these "finds" no weapons or implements were brought to light. The Indian, as a rule, buried the weapons of the dead with them, unless the hasty abandonment of a field of battle prevented.

In one pit on the Joseph Stafford farm in Lost Creek Township more than fifty skeletons were uncovered in one spot, which inclines one to the belief that the early inhabitants fell victims to an epidemic which carried them off in great numbers. It is well known that at various times the red races that inhabited Ohio were decimated by smallpox, a disease for which they had no cure, and consequently they died rapidly. Few Indians were actually killed in battle in Miami County, for, so far as is known, no inter-tribal wars occurred, and the numbers slain by the whites were not great. Summing up everything, there remains no doubt that this county saw in its primitive state the villages of the Mound Builder. While he left behind him comparatively few traces of his occupancy of our soil, he must have lived here, to vanish in the mists of the past and become one of the enigmas of the ages. The space that exists between his disappearance and the coming of the Indian is indeterminable. Whether it should be counted by decades or centuries no one can tell. If the Mound Builder was the sentient being some have called him, it is strange that he should leave behind him no hieroglyphics by which the learned could arrive at the time of his habitation. The Indians speculated over him; as has been said, they had traditions of him, but the forests of this vast and now densely populated region are as silent regarding him as are the rivers of the Old World of the first people who looked upon their waters.

The Indians of Miami County had their own history to make, and they made it. Too often that history was made to the sorrow of the first settlers. They disputed the ground with the white man; they remained here as long as possible. The white man saw that the land was fair and he wanted a new home west of the Alleghanies, and the forests of Ohio beckoned him irresistibly. The dawn of civilization broke with the vanishment of the savage. The settler came here to remain, and not all the red tribes were strong enough to dispossess him. There could be no peace between the two races. The settler was ready to extend the olive branch, but the Indian rejected it. The warrior saw in the vanguard of civilization a menace; he stood ready to resist every encroachment and it is to his credit that he did it with all his might. There remains among us to-day nothing to mark the Indian occupation of this county. The fertile fields were destined to receive a new race of people, and with the disappearance of the scarlet tribes the whites began that era of prosperity which exists to the present day.

The area of Miami County approximates four hundred square miles. It is divided into twelve townships, six on each side of the river, which, rising in Hardin County, flows southward and enters the Ohio near Lawrenceburg, Indiana. The surface of the county is undulating and the soil productive. The land in the western part of

Newberry Township is the most elevated in the county. In the Stillwater region, especially in Union Township, the elevation is again marked, and precipitous banks in some places fringe that historic stream, but these acclivities lose themselves in gentle undulations until they become level plains. Newton Township, also on the west side, is mostly level, though bluffs are found along Stillwater as it courses through that particular section. In the northern part of the county, or that portion embraced by Washington Township, in which is the City of Piqua, the land is again undulating in the eastern and southern portion, but rather flat in the northern part. East of the Miami River there is but little high ground except in Bethel Township, where the land attains considerable height; but all these elevations are tillable and produce good crops.

The course of the Miami lies through a region particularly adapted to agriculture, and this fact no doubt attracted the early settler and decided him to locate here. The many small streams which enter the Miami head largely in natural springs, and it is noticeable that they are generally free from contamination, the water being clear and healthful. These creeks, for the most part, flow through farm lands, and nearly all have low banks which afford stock easy access to the water. Spring Creek, so named on account of contiguous springs, courses through a fine farming region. Lost Creek and Honey Creek, also on the east side of the county, enter the Miami in Bethel Township and not far apart. Indian Creek, heading in Lost Creek Township, flows in a southwesterly direction into Lost Creek. The various small tributaries of the Miami form a perfect network of drainage throughout the county. Nearly all of them are subject to sudden rises, which help to enrich the land and stimulate fertility. On the whole the topography of Miami County is conducive to agriculture in all its forms. There is little waste land; the forest area is gradually disappearing, many farms being entirely treeless—a striking contrast to the physical geography of the country a few years back.

The fertility of our soil is equal to that of any county in the State. The bottom lands on both sides of the Miami are highly productive, and the uplands bring forth abundant crops. The lands cleared by the first settlers now constitute the best farms in the county, which proves that the pioneer was a person of discrimination. He came from an older country east of the Alleghanies and sought among the forests of the Miami a home which promised to rival the one he had left. While the soil of this county varies in depth and productiveness, there has never been anything to discourage the farmer, and this accounts for the small numbers who have emigrated from this region. There is to-day no farm within our borders that is not convenient to market, and the numerous good roads that spread in every direction facilitate the delivery of our agricultural products. A few years ago a piece of land in Staunton Township, known locally as the ''Shaking Prairie,'' was considered wholly untillable, but to-day it produces excellent crops. Tobacco of late years has become a staple crop in the county, which still further demonstrates the fertility of the soil.

Usually the character of the surface depends upon its geological formation. To a large extent the development of natural conditions is dependent on the drainage. The farm lands of Miami County are generally supplied with good water, which is furnished by natural springs and creeks. In the early days homes were built at or near springs, and running water was a desideratum. The larger waterways of the county have numerous "arms" or tributaries, which flow into them from various directions. These creeks are the natural drainage of the localities through which they flow. The Stillwater is the largest of the streams that enter the Miami. It finds its source in Darke County on our northern border and, after traversing Union, Newton and Newberry Townships, debouches into the Miami a short distance north of Dayton. This important tributary of the parent stream takes its name from the tranquillity of its current, which cannot be called rapid at any place. Stillwater is the drainage of the western side of the county. It is noted for the absence of abrupt banks on the west side, while on the east for nearly its whole course through Union Township the land slips level from the bed of the stream, receding like the trend of a prairie. Stillwater has many tributaries, chiefest among which is Ludlow Creek, which is celebrated for its "Falls," one of the most romantic places within the borders of the county. Other creeks of less importance to the Stillwater region are Greenville, Trotter and Panther.

The main tributaries of the Miami enter it from the east. These are Lost Creek, Spring Creek and Honey Creek. Flowing into these are a perfect network of lesser streams, some of which have local names, while others are too small to have an appellation. The natural water system of the county is most excellent, supplying as it does the needs of agriculture and enriching the several communities in more ways than one. The larger streams afford sites for mills, but the introduction of improved milling machinery has of late years done away with the old system. The Miami eventually receives all the drainage. The county itself has a slope from north to south. In regard to the drift, as manifested within its borders, I quote from the State Geological Survey:

"The entire surface of Miami County is covered with loose material, composed of gravel, sanded clay, with a great number of granite and other rocks of similar origin. The commonly received opinion is that these materials have been drifted hither by the agency of water, either fluid or ice, and the facts observed all tend to point to the north, mostly beyond the chain of the great lakes, as the source from whence it has been brought. The Miami, which enters the county at the north, cuts through a perpendicular thickness of about seventy-five feet of drift clay, gravel and bowlders, and all the water courses which intersect the northern portion of the county cut through the drift to the depth of thirty feet."

The foregoing gives one an idea of the understratum of our soil. In some places the drift is composed of sand and gravel, with a sprinkling of clay, in others the clay is absent. The fine gravel for which the county is noted affords material for the excellent roads that bisect it everywhere. The gravel supply seems exhaustless and much of this material has never been uncovered. I shall not go into details concerning the various strata of rock that underlie our surface. It is sufficient to say that we have within the county three distinct geological formations. These are the Niagara, the Clinton Rock and the Blue Limestone of the Cincinnati group. The Niagara formation is exposed at various places, notably along Greenville Creek, at the Piqua and other quarries. From the Niagara most of our quarried stone comes. The Clinton Rock is seen in the Honey Creek region and is prominent along Lost Creek. The builders of the Troy hydraulic found between that city and Piqua several hundred feet of solid Clinton Rock, through which they were obliged to cut. The Blue Limestone lies below the base of the Clinton. It is thus observed at the base of the Charleston cliffs, as well as on the Stillwater near West Milton. It would only weary the general reader to detail the numerous classes of rock which enter into the geological history of the county. The description would prove interesting only to the student and he is referred to the various surveys which have been made of this region.

Again recurring to pre-historic relics, it is well to say they are not abundant in this county. True, some have been found at various times, but the archæologist has not been paid for his researches. We have within our borders no particular earthworks such as are found at Newark and in other parts of the state. Since several discoveries of mastodon remains have been made in the county, it is natural to suppose that the mastodon was co-existent with early man. Scientists place the prehistoric man in advance of the Mound Builder, yet beyond some pottery and implements of the latter race we know nothing of them. It is therefore not unlikely that in this county, ages before the first moccasin crinkled the leaves, the two strange races referred to lived and vanished.

The coming of the Indian is well known. He appeared along the banks of the Miami and in the adjacent region. He made this locality his hunting ground. He drifted hither from the Miami of the Lakes or from the fastnesses of Kentucky, south of the Ohio. It is said that the Shawnee came from the far South, moving gradually northward till he established himself in the Valley of the Miami. The Indian considered the land he inhabited his own. He erected his wigwam, planted a little maize, and where to-day are farms and cities of this county, he hunted the wild game or engaged his red rivals in battle. It is useless to attempt to locate all the red tribes that frequented this locality at different times. They will be referred to further along in this work. Fortunately the pioneer, who was a person of wide observation, has left us many accounts of the Indian. He had excellent opportunities for seeing the red man at home, on the warpath and in the chase. It was the richness of this region, not only in natural beauty, but in game of every description, that filled the Indian with a desire to fight for it. He had nothing in common with the palefaces, and from the moment the first white settler penetrated the forests of the Miami he had a natural and vindictive enemy in the Indian hunter.

During the Indian occupancy of Miami County and for years thereafter, game was abundant. There was sustenance here for wild animals of every description. The streams were stocked with fish and the forests afforded shelter for birds and beasts. The Indian, who was a natural hunter, spent much time in the chase. Before the advent of the settler he killed with the arrow or by laying snares for the wild tenants of the woods. Throughout the country deer, bears, wolves, wildcats, turkeys, pheasants and wild pigeons were to be found. There is authority for the statement that in 1749 buffalo were seen along the Miami. Bears were plentiful. They grew fat on berries and wild honey, which abounded in the Miami forests. It is stated as a matter of record that David Loury during his lifetime, killed one thousand bears on Mad River, which is an indication of the numbers to be found within the confines of this county. In the autumn of 1816, nine years after the formation of the county, Henry Kerns killed a bear whose quarters weighed four hundred pounds. As the bear vanished deer seemed to increase. The cool water courses and the wild and luxuriant pasture lands, untouched by the hand of man, formed their favorite habitat. John Knoop, one of the first settlers of the county, saw nine deer at one time where the hamlet of Staunton now stands.

In fact, deer were so numerous at one time that they could be shot from the doors of the cabins, and more than one pioneer woman brought down the antlered lord of the forest from her window. The wolf was for a long time the sneaking, sleep-disturbing element of the county. He roamed the forests in bands, ever on the alert for the sheepfold and the unprotected lamb. His long howls awoke the echoes of the night and he became the settler's most annoying enemy. At last the Legislature offered a bounty of three dollars for his scalp, and thereafter he was pursued untiringly and at last destroyed.

Of the smaller game, squirrels inhabited the county in vast numbers. In a few years they became great pests, destroying whole fields of corn in a short time. Their depredations resulted in the formation of organized bands of squirrel hunters and special days were set apart for the destruction of the litle pests. During one of these famous "hunts," which took place a few miles south of Troy, one hundred and fifty bushels of corn were awarded to Elias Gerard, who within six days brought in 1,700 squirrel scalps. A like amount of corn was given Charles Wolverton, whose trophies numbered 1,300. The great squirrel migration took place in this county in 1828 when thousands of the little animals traveled from west to east permitting nothing to swerve them from their course. Countless numbers were killed with clubs by the pioneer youth during this strange hegira. Such was the great game preserve of this county at the dawn of its history. The large game which survived the skill and rapacity of the Indian hunter succumbed to the settler. War was made on the wildcat, wolf and panther on account of their destructiveness, and the wild turkey was killed for food. The boys of the pioneer families were early taught the use of the rifle and became skilled with it. They could bring down the squirrel from the topmost branches of the oak and did not fear the panther. It was the descendants of these young pioneers who in after years became the marksmen of the armies of Grant and Sherman.

CHAPTER II.

FIRST WHITE MAN IN THE COUNTY

The Call of the West—The Pioneer Settler—De Bienville's Expedition of 1749—Attack on Pickawillany—Expedition of Christopher Gist—Location of Pickawillany—Washington's Journey—Expeditions of George Rogers Clarke—Experiences of Abram Thomas—Battle on the Johnston Farm—Beauty of the Country at the Time of Clarke's Expedition—Coming of John Knoop, 1797—Pioneer Settlers.

It is an interesting fact that the trend of discovery, invasion, and immigration from the earliest times has been westward. The adventurous prows of the Columbian fleet pointed toward the occident; the call of the western wild lured the ill-fated De Soto to his grave beneath the waters of the Mississippi; Coronado marched toward the setting sun in search of the "Seven Cities of Cibola," and the Chevalier La Salle carried the sacred symbol of the Nazarene to the forests of the Illinois. The virgin woods, reflected in the limpid waters of the Miami, echoed only to the howl of the predatory wolf and the battle-cry of the contending tribes. Long before the coming of the white man the skulking Indian, decked in the paraphernalia of the warpath, sought his red rival within the present boundaries of this county, or hunted wild game through its primeval thickets.

The trading-post, that forerunner of civilization, had not yet set up its stockade. The only craft that cut the western waters were the lithe canoes of the scarlet legions. From the Miami-of-the-Lakes to the shores of the Ohio the only pathways of the woods were the Indian and buffalo trails. It was the age of shadow and savagery. No axe awoke the echoes of the forests and everywhere, unbroken and in its pristine beauty, lay the vast hunting grounds of the red man. What must have been the thoughts of the Boones and Kentons when for the first time they beheld a scene like this? One naturally wonders if they dreamed of the opening up of the region of the Miami by the hand of civilization, of the day, not far remote, when the cabin of the settler should rise upon the wigwam's site and trade and traffic send up their clarion calls where ran the woodland trails.

It seems a far cry back from the busy present to the distant past. Yet a century is but a milestone on the highway of Progress. It is man and man alone who makes history. The song of the first pioneer women has not been wholly lost in the noise of the myriad wheels of trade. The hand that reared the first cabin on the banks of the Miami builded better than it knew.

Let us turn the early pages of history and trace from the beginning the opening up of this county. It is well that reliable records of our birthright have come down to us. The settler who first penetrated the wilderness of the Miami has left for us his footprints so that we can trace him unerringly. As a rule he was not a man of scholastic lore. He was a person of brain and brawn who, deterred by no difficulties, came from beyond the Alleghanies and passed with high hopes the portals of the "new Canaan." All hail the memory of the little band of pioneers who scaled the mountain barrier and saw the wolf flee from the light of his campfires!

I shall not deal with tradition, which has been aptly termed "the unwritten or oral transmission of information," and it is not reliable. As early as 1749 Celeron de Bienville was sent out by the Marquis de la Gallissoniere, Governor of Canada, to take possession for France of the Ohio Valley and prevent the English Ohio Company from acquiring it by right of settlement. Gallissoniere was governor of Canada when the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle was signed. He was a naval officer and, like all the early governors of that province, had a very exalted opinion of his abilities. Despite his physical deformity—he was a hunchback—he was animated by a bold spirit and strong and penetrating intellect. Parkman says that "he felt that, cost what it might, France must hold Canada and link her to Louisiana by chains of forts strong enough to hold back the British colonies and cramp their growth within norrow limits." The treaty had really done nothing to settle the boundaries between France and England. Slowly but surely the English had been crossing the Alleghanies, seducing the Indian from his allegiance to France and ruining the fur trade which even then flourished in the Ohio Valley.

Something had to be done to counteract the aggressions of the English in this particular locality and this determined Gallissoniere to send Celeron de Bienville westward with the region embraced within the borders of Miami County as his objective point. De Bienville was a loyal officer of France, but a man of haughty, disobedient character. As the first Frenchman who entered the forest in this locality at the head of an armed force he deserves a brief mention. In some ways the Governor of Canada could not have entrusted the expedition to a better man, but De Bienville had ideas of his own and was inclined, when beyond the power of his superior, to exercise them. He was thoroughly familiar with the Indian character, and his intense hatred of the English led Gallissoniere to expect great things of him. Bred among the frivolities and corruptions of a licentious court, Celeron brought his gay habits into the wilderness, and these, with his innate stubbornness, threatened to clothe the expedition with failure.

The expedition left Lachine on the 15th of June, 1749, and having ascended the St. Lawrence, swept across Lake Ontario and from Niagara skirted the southern shore of Lake Erie and at last gained the headwaters of the Alleghany. Celeron descended that river and the Ohio. Already the English trader had penetrated this wilderness, but the Frenchman claimed it in the name of his king. At different places De

Bienville buried six leaden tablets upon which he described his acts. The first of these plates which marked his route was buried at the foot of a tree immediately after crossing the Alleghany. A great ceremony preceded the burial, calculated to impress the French and Indians with the importance of the expedition. Four leagues below French Creek, by a rock covered with Indian inscriptions, they buried another plate, and at the mouth of the Muskingum two more were placed. Fifty years later a party of boys, bathing in the river, discovered one of these plates protruding from the bank, and, after melting half of it into bullets, they gave the last half away and it is still in existence. Celeron or "The plate planter," as he is called, buried still another plate at the mouth of the Great Kenawha and this plate was found by a boy in 1846. Three of Celeron's plates have been found. One which was never buried was found in possession of some Indians who brought it to Col. Johnson on the Mohawk and the scheming Colonel interpreted the inscriptions in a manner to incense the savages against the French.

The last plate was buried at the mouth of the Great Miami, after which the little band crossed to Lake Erie and gained Fort Niagara October 19th, 1749. Celeron reached the old Indian town of Pickawillany on the site of the state dam two miles north of Piqua. In order to show the assurance and pomposity of the French I transcribe the inscription of the tablet buried at the mouth of the Great Miami:

> "In the year 1749—the reign of Louis XV, King of France—we, Celeron, commandant of a detachment sent by Monsieur the Marquis of Gallissoniere, Commander in Chief of New France, to establish tranquillity in certain Indian villages in these cantons, have buried this plate at the confluence of the Ohio and of To-Ra-Da-Koin, this 29th July—near the river Ohio, otherwise Beautiful river, as a monument of renewal of possession, which we have taken of the said river and all its tributaries and of all the land on both sides, as far as the source of said rivers—inasmuch as the preceding kings of France have enjoyed and maintained it by their arms and treaties, especially by those of Ryswick, Utrecht and Aix-la-Chapelle."

Parkman avers that Celeron was ordered to attack the English who had established themselves at Pickawillany, but he was loath to obey. At this place the English traders had often gathered to the number of fifty and Longueill, Governor of Canada, characterized them as "the instigators of revolt and the source of all our woes." De Bienville was charged with disobedience and forced to attack. A French trader named Langlade, who had married a squaw, led a force of 200 Ojibwa warriors from Michillimackinac and advanced through the forest to attack Old Britain of the "Demoiselle," who was the controlling spirit of the English at Pickawillany. This force of savage furies burst upon the English in the month of June, 1752. The Indian women fled from the maize fields to the protection of the traders. There were but eight traders in the fort at the time. Old Britain was killed with fourteen of his Miamis and the chief was eaten by his cannibalistic enemies. The traders captured at Pickawillany were cruelly treated. They were plundered of everything; even their clothes were taken from them and Langlade carried them in triumph to Duquesne, the new governor, who recommended him to the Minister for reward, saying: "As he is not in the King's service and had married a squaw, I will ask for him only a pension of two hundred francs, which will flatter his vanity."

It was not much of a battle, but it was the initial clash of the two great nations whose supremacy on these shores was afterward to be settled on the Heights of Abraham. It is rather notable that on the borders of Miami County should be fought out one of the early disputes between Celt and Gaul.

Prior, however, to the assault on the trading post at Pickawillany, the region of the Miami was invaded by a little force intended to spy out the land in the interest of France's great rival, England. In 1750 an association consisting chiefly of Virginians and called the Ohio Company, was formed to settle the western wilderness. In this association were two brothers of Washington. The governing committee placed at the head of the exploring band a hardy scout and guide named Christopher Gist, one of the most noted backwoodsmen of the early days. A grant of 500,000 acres was procured from the king on condition that one hundred families should be established upon it within seven years, a fort built and a garrison maintained. The committee under whose instructions Gist was to operate in the exploring and selection of the land stipulated that "it must be good, level land. We had rather go quite down the Mississippi than take mean, broken land." Gist turned his face toward what was afterward to be the county we now inhabit—Miami. He was beset with dangers from the first. The Scotch-Irish traders told him that he would never return in safety, and it was not until the old backwoodsman declared that he was the bearer of a message from the King that he was permitted to proceed. Gist had with him as interpreter a companion named Andrew Montour, who was a character of those times. His mother was the celebrated half-breed, Catherine Montour, who had been carried off by the Iroquois and adopted by them. Her son Andrew, who became of much service to Gist, is thus described by one who knew him:

"His face is like that of a European, but marked with a broad Indian ring of bear's grease and paint drawn completely around it. He wears a coat of fine cloth of cinnamon color, a black neck-tie with silver spangles, a red satin waistcoat, trousers, over which hangs his shirt, shoes and stockings, a hat and brass ornaments, something like the handle of a basket suspended from his ears." A real forest dandy of the olden time!

After leaving the Muskingum Gist journeyed to a village on White Woman's Creek, so called from one Mary Harris, who lived there. She had been captured when young by the Indians, and at the time of Gist's visit had an Indian husband and a family of young half-breeds. Moving west through the vast solitudes of the unbroken forest the little band reached a Shawnee town at the mouth of the Scioto, where they were well received. Soon after leaving this village they struck the trail leading to Pickawillany. The old guide was delighted with the country and in his report to the Ohio Company he says that "it is rich, level land, well timbered with large walnut, ash, sugar and cherry trees; well watered with a great number of streams and rivulets, full of beautiful meadows, with wild rye, blue grass and clover, and abounding with game, particularly deer, elks, wild turkeys and buffaloes, thirty or forty of the latter being seen on one piece of land." Such, no doubt, was the condition of this county at that period.

Gist crossed the Miami on a raft and was hailed by Old Britain, the chief at

Pickawillany. At his time the station numbered 2,000 souls, and the traders were secure in a fort of pickets, protected with logs. Here was held in Gist's honor the first wild dance ever performed for white men in this region. It was called the "feather dance" and what it was like let the journal of the old frontiersman say: "It was performed by three dancing masters, who were painted all over of various colors, with long sticks in their hands, upon the ends of which were fastened long feathers of swans and other birds, neatly woven in the shape of a fowl's wing. In this disguise they performed many antic tricks, waving their sticks with great skill, to imitate the flying of birds, keeping exact time with their music. An Indian drum furnished music and each warrior, striking a painted post with his tomahawk, would recount his valorous deeds on the warpath and the buffalo trail."

As there was a "confusion of tongues" at Babel so there is a confusion of statements concerning the exact site of Pickawillany. Some writers place it in Shelby County and others confuse it with Loramie's Store, and vice versa. Let us sift the different assertions for a moment and settle, if we can, the location of this important frontier post. Parkman, who is a very authentic historian, in his "Montcalm and Wolfe," says that Celeron de Bienville in 1749 "reached a village of the Miamis lately built at the mouth of Loramie Creek," and again refers to it as "the Indian town on the upper waters of the Great Miami." Howe, in his account of Shelby County, locates Pickawillany "about a mile south of the Shelby County line," and adds, in the interest of accuracy, that its exact location was "on the northwest side of the Great Miami, just below the mouth of what is now Loramie Creek in Johnston's prairie." This would locate it in Washington Township and nine miles southwest of Sidney. But in the first edition of his "Historical Collections" Howe says, "The mouth of Loramie's Creek is in this (Shelby) county, sixteen miles northwest of Sidney." Loramie's Store or post could not have occupied the site of Pickawillany. The two sites are entirely different. In the "History of Fort Wayne" is given a speech of Little Turtle, chief of the Miamis, made at the Treaty of Greenville, 1795, in which he locates Pickawillany within the present boundaries of Miami County. Dr. Asa Coleman of Troy, one of the earliest and most intelligent of the pioneers, in his "Historical Recollections," remarks: "Howe places the trading post (Pickawillany) here described in Shelby County northwest of Sidney, evidently confusing it with Loramie's Store and Fort Loramie, a point located sixteen miles distant from the Miami River up Loramie's Creek when the trading post of the Tewightewee towns and the trading establishment here described was a mile southwest of the Shelby County line in Miami County, below the mouth of Loramie's Creek in Johnston's prairie."

Gen. George Rogers Clark attacked Pickawillany in 1782, as will be described later, and he locates it at the mouth of Loramie's Creek, nine miles south of Sidney, while Loramie's Store was nearly fifteen miles northwest between the waters of Loramie's Creek and the head waters of the St. Mary's. This is proven by the fact that Clark, after attacking Pickawillany, marched fifteen miles to Loramie's Store and burned all the buildings.

That the Indian Piqua stood on what was called the Johnston Prairie is attested by the fact that the ground to-day when freshly plowed shows discoloration, "probably from the disturbance of the soil in digging the trenches and the well." Many old time relics have been found on the site of this historic old fort. Summing up everything presented by different writers the conclusion is reached that the trading post of Pickawillany was situated within the borders of this county, which conclusion places the first settlement here thirty-nine years before the coming of the whites to Marietta. Of course the settlement at Pickawillany was not a permanent one, but our county should have all the credit it is entitled to. It is rather perplexing to read the accounts of writers who should have written with more care than they have done. Some of the early maps are also confusing, but the Evans map made in 1755 places Pickawillany at the mouth of Loramie's Creek, and this map is undoubtedly right. One of the most important events connected with this old station is the fact already mentioned that there occurred the first conflict, small though it was, in the "Braddock" or French and Indian War which established English supremacy on this continent and broke the sway of the French.

The beauty, fertility and worth of the Ohio valley early excited the grasping propensities of France and England. Each wanted what the other had, and each was ready to take by force that which promised to enrich her rival. The *fleur de lys* could not float where the banner of Saint George kissed the breezes and vice versa. The two ruling courts of Europe, each corrupt, balked at nothing that would advance their interests and fill their coffers. Long before Washington shed the first blood in the French and Indian War through the death of Jumonville, the land which lies to-day within the borders of Miami County was a bone of contention between the continental rivals. The story carried back by Gist, his flowery description of the country he had seen, acted as a spur to the English. The two kingdoms girded their loins for the conflict.

The first step or among the first was to warn the French from the Valley of the Ohio. This delicate and important task was assigned to a youth of twenty-one, who was destined to be known in time to the whole world—George Washington. Clothed with the proper authority by Governor Dinwiddie of Virginia, Washington in 1753 turned his face toward the Ohio wilderness, accompanied by Gist as guide. While the future chieftain of the American armies did not reach the banks of the Miami, there is no doubt that his report stimulated immigration and started the wave which was soon to top the Alleghanies in its westward course. The French were loath to give up their possessions along the Ohio. They knew that each surrender but strengthened their adversary. The previous wars on this continent had permanently settled nothing. There could be no peace while the two nations faced each other this side the Atlantic. The prize was not only Canada, but that vast and, as yet, unpeopled region which stretched southward to the Ohio, and westward to the banks of the Mississippi. This tract included the lands watered by the Miami.

The Treaty of Paris, which was the concluding event of the French and Indian

War, saw the Gaul with but a limited foothold on the North American continent. The *fleur de lys* was hauled down and the banner of Saint George took its place. Sullenly the French withdrew from the regions they had held and William Pitt stood forth as the great diplomat of his day. With the gigantic struggle at an end, the tide of immigration, interrupted by the war, turned westward. The time was near at hand when the foot of the white man should crinkle the leaves of the Miami forests and when the sound of his axe should startle the foxes in their coverts.

Previous to the expedition of George Rogers Clark, which penetrated to the present domain of Miami County, as I shall show, in 1782, the Indians had been unusually troublesome. They were constantly crossing the Ohio from the Kentucky wilderness, carrying the war among the unprotected white settlements. Previously, or in 1780, Clark struck and destroyed the Indian towns on Mad River, and the Shawnees, to which people belonged the great leader Tecumseh, abandoning their burning wigwams, sought the banks of the Great Miami, where they built another town, naming it Piqua. From this point of vantage they swept viciously in every direction carrying torch and tomahawk even into Kentucky. The intrepid Clark once more took the forest trail and in 1782 led 1,000 Kentuckians northward. He commanded a force of resolute men arrayed in buckskin and homespun, and all were innured to fatigue of every kind and at home with the rifle. The leader of this foray had gained fame by his capture of the British post at Vincennes and was in every way calculated to head just such a body of men. He was the friend of Washington who had followed his career with interest and had complimented him for his bravery. The first Clark expedition had forced the Indians northward and they were now firmly established in the Miami country.

Eager for vengeance and never forgetting their chastisement in 1780, they again took up the hatchet and swept the wilderness far and wide with the ferocity of tigers. In short the destruction of every white settler in Ohio and Kentucky seemed imminent, and if not given a salutary lesson the lands just opening up to civilization would for a number of years remain in the hands of the red man. It was this terrible state of affairs which led to Clark's second expedition. He crossed the Ohio at a point where Cincinnati now stands, but where at that time there was nothing but a fort and a stockade. The wily Clark was well acquainted with the Indian character and threw out scouts to guard against surprise as he progressed through the wilderness.

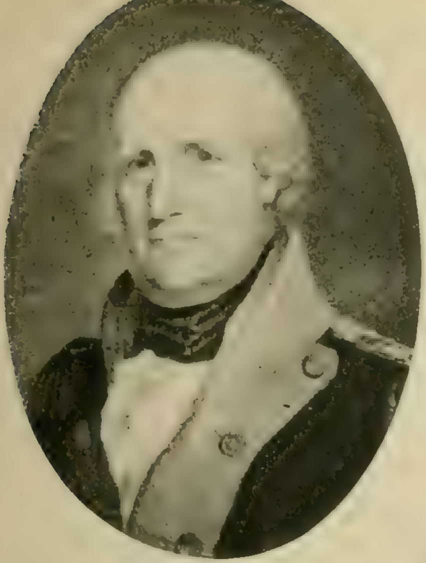
People living at the present day cannot estimate the trials of a march like that made by Clark and his little band. They were headed for the Indian towns on the Miami. The forest was then unbroken, its trails were those made by the red hunters and the wild animals. The branches of the great trees overlapped, casting the whole ground in shadow and the long howl of the wolf was the only sound that broke the silences. Roads had to be cut through this lonesome tract of country, roads for the pack-horses, the teams and the men and all the time the latter had to be on the alert against an Indian surprise such as had overwhelmed Braddock on the Monongahela. At night the camp was well guarded and the little army slept on its arms. The inmates of the solitary cabins scarcely dared retire at night for fear of attack, and nightly the darkness was illuminated by the flames of burning homes. The sparse settlements were ever in the shadow of the tomahawk. The warcry of the Indian was liable at any moment to fall upon the settler's ears. There was fear by day and dread by night. The babe was taken from its mother's arms and dashed against the nearest tree. Crops were destroyed and the blossomed-fringed pathways of the forest became scenes of massacre. Where today stand the cities and hamlets of this county and where the industrious farmer follows his plow in peace, the Indian struck with the ferocity of a fiend and left desolation in his wake. Language cannot adequately depict the dangers and horrors of this period.

Not long before Clark's invasion the Indians, during a foray into Kentucky, captured a white woman named Mrs. McFall. She was compelled to accompany her captors into Ohio and the band was headed toward the Piqua settlements. A grand pow-wow was about to be held and savages from every quarter were flocking to the place of rendezvous. Warriors hurried thither afoot and on horseback and the forest seemed to swarm with them. As the red marauders reached the river they were astounded to behold the advance guard of Clark's little army. Instantly there was consternation among the Indians. They stood not on the order of their going but scattered in every direction, terror-stricken at meeting the rifles of the resolute borderers. Mrs. McFall and the squaws were abandoned to their fate and fell into the hands of Clark, who carried them with him.

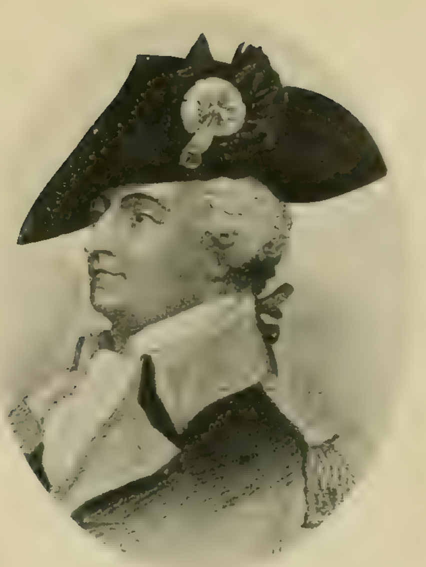
When the Piqua towns were reached they were found to be stripped of nearly everything portable, but many bits of Indian furniture were left behind by the frightened warriors. Upper as well as Lower Piqua was found in the same condition. Clark halted for the night. With his usual precaution he threw out his guards to prevent surprise, and silence settled over the forest. Suddenly the woods rang with shots, for the wily foe, creeping through the underbrush, had opened fire on the sentries. In a moment the whole army was aroused and firing was kept up till the break of day. Notwithstanding the disadvantages under which the border men labored five Indians were found dead on the leaves, the survivors, satisfied with their punishment, having decamped. During the previous evening a detachment sent out by Clark had burned Loramie's Store a few miles away. The total loss on the part of the army was Capt. McCracken and a man whose name is unknown. The chastisement inflicted had for a time a salutary effect on the Indians. They discovered that the whites were determined to put an end to their depredations, cost what it might, and the scattered settlements in this region enjoyed a brief repose.

Among those who accompanied Gen. Clark was one of the first settlers of Miami County, a courageous man named Abraham Thomas. He afterward published an account of the expedition in the *Troy Times* from which I make the following extract:

> "In the year 1782 I again volunteered in an expedition under General Clark, with the object of destroying some Indian villages about Piqua on the Great Miami River. On this occasion nearly 1,000 men marched out of Kentucky by the route of the Licking River. We crossed the Ohio at the present site of Cincinnati, where our last year's stockade had been kept up and a few



GEN. GEORGE ROGERS CLARK



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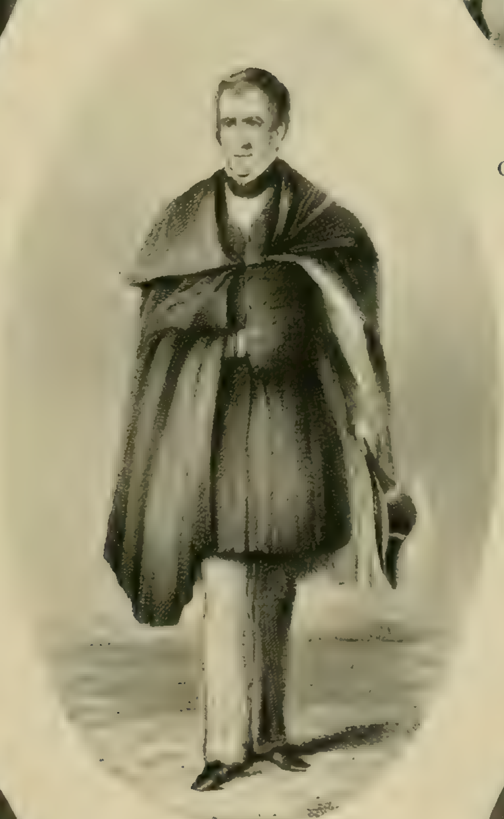

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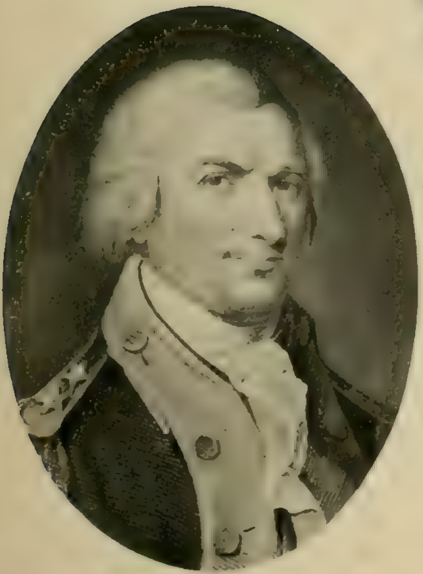

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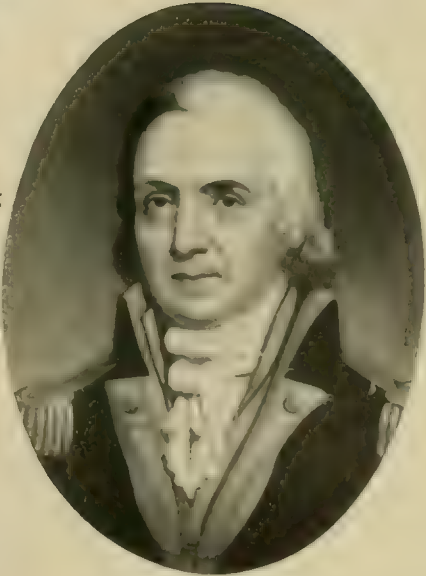


GEN. JOSIAH HARMAR

> people resided in log cabins. We proceeded immediately onward through the woods without regard to our former trail and crossed Mad River not far from the present site of Dayton. We kept on the east side of the river—the Miami—and crossed it four miles below the Piqua towns. Shortly after gaining the bottoms on the west side of the river, a party of Indians with their squaws on horseback came out of a trace that led to some Indian towns near the present site of Greenville. On arriving at Piqua we found that the Indians had fled from their villages, leaving most of their effects behind. During the following night I joined a party to break up an encampment of Indians said to be lying about what was called the French Store (Loramie's). We soon caught a Frenchman on horseback, tied him to a horse for our guide and arrived at the place in the night. The Indians had taken the alarm and cleared out. We, however, broke up and burned the Frenchman's store, which for a long time had been a place of outfit for Indian marauders, and returned to the main body early in the morning. Many of our men were stocked with plunder. After burning and otherwise destroying everything about upper and lower Piqua towns we commenced our return march.
>
> “In this attack five Indians were killed during the night the expedition lay at Piqua. The Indians lurked around the camp, firing random shots from the hazel thickets without doing us any injury; but two men who were in search of their stray horses were fired upon and severely wounded. One of these died shortly afterward and was buried at what is now called ‘Coe's Ford,’ where we recrossed the Miami on our return. The other, Capt. McCracken, lived until we reached the site of Cincinnati, where he was buried. On this expedition we had with us Capt. William Barbee, afterward Judge Barbee, one of my primitive neighbors in Miami County, a most worthy and brave man, with whom I have marched and watched through many a long day and finally removed with him to Ohio.”

Since the first bloodshed in the French and Indian War occurred within the limits of Miami County, one of the last battles between the rival nations took place within the same territory. In 1763 the adherents of France and England came together on the Col. John Johnston farm at Upper Piqua. Here the Tewightewee towns inhabited by the Miamis were then established. The Indians, with the Wyandots, Ottawas and kindred nations, espoused the cause of France. They were assisted by Canadians and French, the whole forming a motley confederacy against the common enemy. I may premise by saying that the French by their lenient treatment of the red man had drawn to their interest some of the most powerful of the northern tribes, whereas, on the other hand, the English were not so fortunate.

They (the English) were aided by the Shawnees, Delawares, Munseys, Senecas, Cherokees and Catawbas, and these warriors with a sprinkling of traders laid siege to the fort. For a whole week, according to the most authentic records obtainable, the siege went on with all the attending incidents of border warfare. The besieging army suffered severely. The resisting force was also badly crippled and lost such property as was exposed. Blackhoof, one of the Shawnee chiefs, with his accustomed exaggeration, informed Col. Johnston after the siege that he could have gathered baskets full of bullets. The allies of France, discouraged and shut off from further active warfare by the peace which had been signed, turned their footsteps from this part of the country and, retiring to the region of the Maumee, came back no more. In their place came the Shawnees, the parent race which produced Tecumseh, the most formidable of the many leaders of the scarlet legions.

For some years comparative peace reigned about Upper Piqua, yet the boats which plowed the waters of the Miami were not always out of danger at the hands of the restless savages. In 1794 Capt. J. N. Vischer, the last commandant at Fort Piqua, was compelled to almost witness the massacre of the officers and crews of two freight boats which he was powerless to aid. It is believed that the boats were attacked for the purpose of drawing the garrison from the fort, but the discreet commander was not to be drawn into the snare.

At the time of Clark's expedition the country of the Miami was a primitive paradise. The first beauty of the woods came with the spring. At first the landscape looked bare and desolate, but before many days the air was sweet with the blossoms of the wild grape, plum, cherry and crab-apple and the whole land beautiful with the contrasting red and white of the dogwood and rosebud, or of elder and wild rose, and the fresh green of the young leaves. The country on both sides of the Miami was for many miles unbroken forest or a thicket of hazel bushes and wild fruit trees. Pioneers could in the summer step out of their back doors into a boundless wild park of garden. Delicious perfumes, sweet as attar of roses, delicate, pungent, aromatic, and countless flowers, pink, white, purple, scarlet, blue, and bending with every shade of yellow and green delighted the senses.

Gist, in his description of the forests of the Miami, has spoken of the great variety of trees that covered the ground. Many of these were of the lordliest kind and had stood for ages before the foot of man pressed the soil about their roots. Oak, hickory, walnut, beech and butternut stood everywhere in the greatest profusion. Their nuts afforded food for the settler as well as for the wild hogs that roamed the woods. Everywhere on both sides of the Miami stretched the great woodlands which to-day are things of the past. In summer the air was mild and pleasant. The winters were cold but the forests acted as ''breaks'' and kept the icy blasts from the inmates of the cabins. A pioneer writer in the *Troy Times* thus refers to the aspect of this country a century ago:

> ''The country around the settlements presented the most lovely appearance. The earth was like an ash-heap and nothing could exceed the luxuriance of primitive vegetation. Indeed, our cattle often died from excess of feeding and it was somewhat difficult to rear them on that account. The white weed or bee-harvest, as it is called, so profusely spread over our bottoms and woodlands, was not then to be seen, the sweet annis, nettles and wild rye, and pea vine, everywhere abounded—they were almost the entire herbage of our bottoms. The two last gave subsistence to our cattle and the first with their nutritious roots were eaten by our swine with the greatest avidity. In the spring and summer months a drove of hogs could be scented at a considerable distance from their flavor of the annis root. Buffalo signs were frequently met with, but the animals had entirely disappeared before the first white inhabitant came into the country, but other game was abundant.''

Among the first white settlers to establish themselves in Miami County was John Knoop. He came from Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, in 1797. In the spring of that year he came down the Ohio to Cincinnati and cropped the first season at Zeigler's stone-house farm, four miles above the post. During the summer he ventured into the Indian country north of the Ohio. At one time he made a journey with a surveying party and selected land not far from the banks of the Miami. At that time the forest swarmed with Indians, principally of the Shawnee nation, but there were others here at the time, roving bands of Mingoes, Delawares, Miamis and Pottawatomies. These bands were peacefully inclined and made no efforts to disturb the first settlers. In the spring of 1798 Knoop moved to near the present site of Staunton where, with Benjamin Knoop, Henry Gerard, Benjamin Hamlet, John Tildus and others, he established a station for the safety of the pioneer families.

It was the victory of Clark that gave to the first settlers in this county a sense of security. Fear of the whites kept the red men in abeyance and those who first awoke the echoes of the woods with their axes were permitted to inhabit the land in peace. The inmates of ''Dutch Station,'' as the settlement was called, remained within it two years, during which time they were occupied in clearing and building on their respective farms. Here was born in 1798 Jacob Knoop, the son of John, the first civilized native of Miami County. At this time there were three young men living at the mouth of Stony Creek and cropping out on what was known as Freeman's prairie. One of these was D. H. Morris, for a long time a resident of Bethel Township. At the same time there resided at Piqua Samuel Hilliard, Job Garrard, Shadrach Hudson, Josiah Rollins, Daniel Cox and Thomas Rich. All these, with the tenants of Dutch Station, comprised the inhabitants of Miami County from 1797 to 1799. From this time all parts of the county began to receive numerous immigrants.

In the fall of 1796 Benjamin Iddings came from Tennessee in search of a new home and located in the Weymire settlement within the limits of Montgomery County, but after one winter there he removed with a family of six children to Newton Township, where he located on the east side of Stillwater. When Judge Symmes made the extensive "Symmes Purchase," which embraced many thousands of acres between the two Miamis, he offered inducements to settlers. Immigration thus given an impulse, began to push northward and some of those who had already bought land of Symmes entered the present limits of Miami County and established themselves near the mouth of Honey Creek as early as 1797. These people, among whom were Samuel Morrison and David Morris, established the first permanent settlement in the county. They laid out opposite the mouth of the creek a town called "Livingston," which name long ago disappeared. Rollins and Hudson already mentioned located near the mouth of Spring Creek, perhaps a few months prior to the settlement at Dutch Station.

The various "stations" so called, erected by the first settlers were formed by erecting logs in a line and the cabins were all joined together, forming one side of a square with the remaining three sides enclosed by palings eight feet high, firmly driven in the ground. All the openings inside the square were secured by a strong gateway. On Gerard's and Gahagan's prairie near Troy, which had once been tilled by the Indians, the tenants of Dutch Station remained two years. In 1799 their numbers were increased by the arrival of John Gerard, Uriah Blue, Joseph Coe, Abram Hathaway, Nathaniel Gerard and Abner Gerard. These were the first actual settlers of the county.

From whence did our first pioneers come? Nearly all the states that comprised the original Union furnished their quota. Those from Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Virginia were perhaps most numerous, but Georgia and the Carolinas sent a goodly number. There were a few from New England and New York and even little Delaware contributed to the settlement of the county. All the pioneers were men of nerve and determination. They did not shrink from the arduous task of carving out new homes in the unbroken wilderness. Some were of hardy Scotch-Irish stock, while German blood flowed in the veins of others. All had traversed leagues of wild land to the homes they found in the beautiful region of the Miami. Nothing daunted them. They met dangers seen and unseen in order that they could raise their children in a new land and give them a heritage enriched by toil and self sacrifice.

CHAPTER III.

FORMATION OF THE COUNTRY; THE HOME IN WILDERNESS, ETC.

Pontiac's Conspiracy—Boquet's Expedition—Block Houses Built at Cincinnati—New York and Virginia Relinquish Charter Claims—Fort Harmar Erected—The Settlement at Marietta—Quick Settlement of the Ohio Valley—Ordinance of 1787—Slavery Forbidden—St. Clair Made Governor—Formation of Hamilton and Montgomery Counties—Formation of Miami County—Abrogation of the Indian Title—Wayne's Victory of the Fallen Timbers and Treaty of Greenville—The Miami Indians—The Symmes Purchase—School Districts Reserved—Sale of Public Lands on Time Payments—The First Court—Homes of the Pioneer Settlers—Pioneer Habits and Customs—Domestic Industries—Early Circulating Medium—Militia Musters—County Officials.

The genesis of Miami County begins with the formation of what is known as the Northwest Territory. I have briefly traced the struggle of France and England for the soil embraced within the present limits of our domain. The last engagement of the French and Indian War took place in 1763 at Fort Piqua. Although the Treaty of Paris settled the claims of the continental rivals to this particular region, in which England was the gainer, it did not put an end to the Indian troubles. In the year last mentioned Pontiac, the great sachem of the Ottawas, formed one of the most stupendous conspiracies ever known. He drew into it the various tribes scattered throughout Ohio, and the design of this scarlet Napoleon was the destruction of the British posts in the northwest. In this he was secretly and, at times, openly aided by the French, who still chafed under the overthrow which they had experienced at the hands of England. Pontiac and Tecumseh stand forth as the most astute Indians ever connected with the history of Ohio.

The plans of Pontiac came to naught, most notably in his failure to capture Detroit, and after the allied tribes had sustained their final defeat at Fort Pitt (Du Quesne), they were forced to make peace by Boquet, who led an expedition into their country and liberated a number of white captives. Not until then did the opposition to British rule end on the part of the Indians. Royal proclamations had hitherto prevented settlements beyond the Ohio, but grants of land south of that river were obtained by companies formed in Virginia and elsewhere, and hunters and traders, ignoring the boundary lines, pushed into the new territory, taking up lands under the very noses of the French. In 1774 the "Quebec Act" passed the English parliament and the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers were made the western and southwestern boundaries of Canada. During the American Revolution a majority of the Indian nations espoused the cause of England, but the Delawares were kept neutral by the Moravians who had established villages of Christian Indians on the Muskingum in 1772.

Two block houses were built at Cincinnati in 1780, the year of Clark's expedition, New York relinquished her charter claims to the Northwest Territory and the following year Virginia did the same; but at the same time obtained by way of compromise a tract of land between the Scioto and Little Miami which received the name of the "Virginia Military District." Massachusetts and Connecticut yielded their claims in 1785 and '86, but gained land like Virginia, which was called the "Western Reserve." Congress, in 1785, caused to be surveyed the public lands west of the Ohio, and Fort Harmar was erected at the mouth of the Muskingum and the Ohio. Under direction of Gen. Rufus Putnam, a brilliant officer of the Revolution, the "Ohio Company of Associates" was formed in Boston and this eventually led to the settlement at Marietta.

The settling of the Ohio Valley quickly followed the expedition led by Putnam. Immigrants poured through the passes of the Alleghanies all headed for that vast and beautiful region which stretched westward. These bands of hardy souls crossed or floated down the Ohio, stopping here and there as the different places pleased them, and the sound of the pioneer's axe awoke the solitudes of the forest. Congress, July 13th, 1787, passed the celebrated ordinance for the government of the Northwest Territory. This act provided for the formation of not more than five states out of the immense tract, and slavery and involuntary servitude was forbidden therein, otherwise than in punishment for crimes. On July 17th, the regular government of the Northwest Territory was installed with Gen. Arthur St. Clair as governor. On the 26th Washington County, Ohio, was established and on September 17th the first court was held.

The inauguration of Governor St. Clair still further stimulated settlement. Reports sent back by those who had settled in Ohio caused a perfect stream of pioneers to flow in this direction. They were undaunted by reports of restless Indians, for it was believed that the red man was by no means pacified; but this did not impede immigration. The white man considered himself capable of coping with the Indian and the lands of the Ohio were too great a prize to be permitted to slip from his grasp. Year after year the tide of civilization rolled westward, breaking through the mountain barriers in a resistless torrent, and filling the forests with a new race which would not brook threatened dispossession.

In January, 1790, Hamilton County was organized, "beginning on the banks of the Ohio River at the confluence of the Little Miami, thence up the same to the Standing Stone Fork, or branch of the Big Miami, and thence with a line to be drawn due east to the Little Miami and down same to the place of beginning." In March, 1803, a part of Hamilton County was laid off and called Montgomery. January 16, 1807, in an act which took effect March first,"

"All that part of Montgomery County be and the same is hereby laid off and created into a separate and distinct county which shall be known by the name of Miami, to-wit: Beginning at the southwest corner of Champaign County and southeast corner of section 1, township 2 and range 9; thence west with the line between ranges 9 and 10 to the Great Miami River, crossing the same in such direction as to take the line on the bank of the said river, between townships 3 and 4 in range 6, west of said river. Thence west with the said line to the state line, thence north with the same to the Indian boundary line; thence east with the same to the Champaign County line; thence south with the said county to the place of beginning.

"From and after the 1st day of April, 1807, said county of Miami shall be vested with all the powers, privileges and immunities of a separate and distinct county. Jan. 7th, 1812, all that part of Montgomery County lying north of the county of Miami shall be and the same is hereby attached to the said county of Miami and all that part lying north of the county of Darke shall be and the same is hereby attached to the said county of Darke."

In this manner according to law came into being the county we now inhabit. Prior, however, to the legal establishment of the county the Indian title had been abrogated. The county's name is derived from the Miami Indians whose place of residence, as a tribe, has long been a subject for dispute by local and state historians. I have before me a letter secured especially for this work from Col. Charles C. Royce, for many years a resident of the county and a compiler of Indian data for the General Government. Col. Royce is an authority on Indian affairs and his conclusions which follow settle once and for all the disputes concerning the Indian occupation of this county. He writes as follows:

"At the close of the Revolutionary War and for a number of years thereafter the territory now comprised within the limits of Ohio was occupied and claimed by a number of Indian tribes, the respective boundaries of each tribe being specifically differential. As early as 1749 an English trading-post was established called Loramie's Store, or Pickawillany, within the present limits of Shelby County, and one or more villages of the Twightwees, or Miami Indians, existed for a time in the vicinity. When the French, with the assistance of the Ottawas and Chippewas, destroyed the trading-post in 1752 in the face of a vigorous protest from the Miamis, the latter were disturbed in their occupation of this territory and withdrew further to the north and west in the vicinity of Fort Wayne.

"After Wayne's defeat of the allied Indian forces at the Battle of Fallen Timbers, in 1794, he made a treaty with them at Greenville, in 1795, whereby they ceded all the land south of a line beginning at the mouth of the Cuyahoga River, thence up the same to the portage between that and the Tuscarawas branch of the Muskingum; thence down that branch to the crossing place above Fort Lawrence; thence to a fork of that branch of the Great Miami running into the Ohio at or near which fork stood Loramie's Store and where commences the portage between the Miami of the Ohio and St. Mary's River, which is a branch of the Miami which runs into Lake Erie; thence a westerly course to Fort Recovery, which stands on a branch of the Wabash, thence southwesterly in a direct line to the Ohio so as to intersect that river opposite the mouth of the Kentucky River.

"This treaty was made jointly with a number of tribes, of whom the Miamis were one. The land ceded to the United States included the present boundaries of Miami County, but at the time of the cession there was no Miami County. Indians resided therein and the region including Miami, Clarke, Champaign, Logan and a number of other counties was claimed and occupied by the Shawnees who had a number of villages in this section.

"By the treaty of October 6, 1818, the Miamis ceded to the United States a tract of country beginning at the Wabash River, near the mouth of Raccoon Creek; thence up the Wabash to Fort Wayne, thence to the St. Mary's River; thence up the St. Mary's to the Portage; thence with the line of the Wyandot cession of 1817 to the reservation at Loramie's Store; thence with the Indian boundary line to Fort Recovery, and thence with said line to the beginning. This tract at its southwestern extremity included a part of the present Shelby, Auglaize and Mercer Counties and marked the southern and eastern lines of the territory specifically claimed by the Miamis.

"It can be affirmatively stated that within the period since the organization of the Federal Government the Miami Indians neither occupied nor claimed any land within the present boundaries of Miami County. On the contrary the United States, by a treaty concluded January 31, 1795, at Greenville, definitely conceded the claims of the Shawnees to the ownership of certain territory which included the present boundaries of Miami County."

It will be seen from Col. Royce's statement that "within the period since the organization of the general government," the Miamis claimed no land within the boundaries of this county. That this tribe of the great Algonquin family at one time were in these parts is undisputed. As early as 1658 the French found the Miamis in the neighborhood of Green Bay, Wis. In 1683 they carried on a war with the Sioux and Iroquois and, in 1705 the French brought about a war between them and the Ottawas. The Miamis, many years later, united with Pontiac in his conspiracy for the destruction of the whites, and during the Revolution they assisted the English. As late as 1790 they were able to put in the field fifteen hundred warriors and were a nation not to be despised. They were warlike and energetic, but idle life and intoxicants so led to their downfall as a great savage nation that they were easily overcome by the whites. They gradually ceded all their lands to the General Government and in 1846 removed to the Fort Leavenworth agency. At the present time this once powerful nation is almost extinct and its members are dissipated and wretched.

I have been thus particular in giving an account of the Miamis from the fact that this county owes its name to them. It is one of the few counties in Ohio that perpetuates the memory of the tribes that once roamed the forests. The Miamis produced no celebrated leaders like Tecumseh and Pontiac, but they had within their ranks warriors whose deeds for many years left their impress on the localities they inhabited.

Prior to the formation of the county one of the hindrances to settlement was the manner in which the land could be obtained. In most of the states and territories lying west of the Alleghanies the United States collectively and as a nation owned or did own the soil of the country after the extinction of the Indian title. This vast domain, which comprised millions of acres, was to be sold at moderate prices to the settlers, but even at this many could not comply with the terms, for the average settler was poor in this world's goods and had nothing but his strong arm and his determination. The "Symmes Purchase" included land between the Great and Little Miami Rivers. It was patented by John Cleves Symmes in 1794 for sixty-seven cents per acre. Every sixteenth section or square mile in each township was reserved by Congress for the use of schools. This tract is now one of the most valuable in the state. I extract from a valuable work the disposition of the lands which attracted the early settlers of this county:

"Up to 1799 Congress lands could not be sold in quantities less than 4,000 acres; but through the efforts of General Harrison a law was passed authorizing the sale of half of the public lands in sections and the other half in half sections. In 1800 land offices were established by Congress for the sale of these lands in sections and half sections on the following terms: Two dollars per acre, applicant to deposit $6 for surveying a section, or $3 for half section and $5 for a patent for a section, or $4 for a half section; also he was obliged to deposit one-twentieth of the price, all of which was to be forfeited if within forty-nine days one fourth of the purchase was not paid, another fourth within two years, another fourth within three years and the residue within four years with 6 per cent interest on the deferred payments from date of sale. Subsequent acts, however, gave great relief to the purchasers by extending the time of payments and in 1804 the fees for surveying were abolished and an act for the sale of lands in quarter sections was passed. In 1820 lands could be bought in forty acre lots and the price was $125 cash.''

The last act was a great blessing to the early settler. He was enabled by it to purchase lands in quantities that suited him, but many purchased sections and half sections, forming from these tracts some of the best farms that exist in the county at the present time. When it became known that land in any quantity desired could be obtained in this section there was a great influx of immigration. The locality drained by the Miami and its tributaries offered excellent inducements to the pioneer, and he was not long in taking advantage of them. He saw that in the valley of the Miami there was everything needed for a home, and the reports he sent back over the mountains to friends and relatives produced amazing results.

With the legal establishment of the county in 1807 a new era was to begin. The first court was held at Staunton, primitive it is true, but a court nevertheless. The log court-house witnessed the first operation of law within the limits of the county, and if the old records could be consulted, an interesting and amusing chapter might be included in this work. It is stated that court was first held in the house of one Peter Felix, who was a character of the early day. He was a Frenchman and somewhat of a trader and he dwelt for years at Staunton carrying on his business. Around the first county seat arose the cabins of the settlers. These early homes, which long ago gave way to more pretentious ones, were simple in the extreme. The wants of the settler were also simple in the extreme. He was easily satisfied. The cabins were, for the most part, constructed on a universal plan. They consisted, as a rule, of one large room. Overhead was a garrett, access to which was had by means of a ladder in one corner of the cabin. The young folks used the upper room for a sleeping apartment. There they were lulled to sleep by the pattering rain on the clapboard roof which was all that separated them from the outer world. How often in the winter time on arising in the morning—never later than four o'clock—did they find their beds covered with snow, driven through the crevices by the piercing winds.

The cracks between the logs were filled with clay in which was mixed the dry grass of the near-by meadows. This held the clay together and kept it from cracking and falling out. The fire-place was broad and deep, constructed of large stones obtained from the bed of a creek near by, and would accommodate a back-log six feet in length which was rolled into position with handspikes and would last for days. The floors were constructed of boards split from long straight logs, generally oak and were smoothed on one side with the axe, laid rough side down and made fast to the joists by wooden pins driven in holes made with an augur. This was called a puncheon floor and an old song recalls it in this manner:

''Oh, Jennie, my toes are sore,
Dancing over the puncheon floor.''

The windows were merely openings made by cutting out a portion of one of the logs, to be closed by a sliding clapboard. Loop-holes were sometimes pierced in the sides and ends of the cabins through which to shoot when attacked by Indians. The doors were heavy and strong and were often fitted with stout barricades to resist outside pressure. The beds were made

CABIN BUILT IN 1798, STAUNTON TOWNSHIP
(Still Standing.)

RESIDENCE OF OSCAR F. FURROW
Lost Creek Township

MIAMI RIVER BELOW TROY

INDIAN MOUND ON WOLVERTON FARM

WEST CHARLESTON FALLS

HORSE SHOE BEND NEAR TROY

upon boards resting on a frame attached to the side of the cabin. The table from which the meals were partaken was secured in the same manner and three-legged stools took the place of chairs. Now and then in a cabin was seen an old split bottom arm-chair that had been brought across the mountains. It was too dear a bit of furniture to be left behind, for the grandmother in it had sung sweet lullabies to all her children while in her protecting arms she rocked them to sleep. These cabin homes, humble as they were, afforded the pioneers comfortable and pleasant places of abode.

One of our old settlers has left on record his experiences in a wilderness home which is particularly interesting:

> "My father's family was small and he took us all with him to the Miami wilderness. The Indian meal which he brought was expended six weeks too soon, so for that time we had to live without bread. The lean venison and the breast of the wild turkey we were taught to call bread. I remember how narrowly we children watched the growth of the potato tops, pumpkin and squash vines, hoping from day to day to get something in place of bread. How delicious was the taste of the young potatoes when we got them! What a jubilee when we were permitted to pull the young corn for roasting ears! Still more when it acquired hardness to be made into johnny-cakes by the aid of a tin grater. The furniture of the table consisted of a few pewter dishes, plates and spoons, but mostly of water bowls, trenchers and noggins. If these last were scarce, gourds and hard-shell squashes made up the deficiency.
>
> "I well remember the first time I ever saw a tea cup and saucer. After the death of my mother, which sad event took place when I was seven or eight years of age, my father sent me away to school. I stopped at a tavern which was plastered on the inside, both as to the walls and ceiling. I had no idea there was a house in the whole world that was not built of logs—the tavern was a stone affair—but I looked around and could see no joists. Whether such a house had been built by the hands of man or had grown up of itself I could not conjecture. I had not the courage to inquire anything about it. When supper came my confusion was worse confounded. A little cup stood in a bigger one with some brownish stuff in it which was neither milk, hominy or broth. What to do with these little cups and the spoons belonging to them I did not know and I was afraid to ask anything concerning them."

In the winter evenings around the fire blazing on the hearth would congregate the family, the mother engaged in making or mending the clothes of the household, while the father was shaping an axe handle, a hickory broom, or perhaps repairing the moccasins for himself and boys. The children cracking nuts or studying their lessons, while at their feet stretched out upon the hearth quietly slept the faithful watchdog, the guardian of the place, an indispensable acquisition to the pioneer home. A lurid flame from the long-nosed iron lamp, filled with melted bear's grease, mingling with the bright firelight, made cheerful the surroundings of this happy group.

In these pioneer homes there was always a cheerful welcome for the new comer. There was little room for envy, jealousy and hatred, which are the cause for so much human misery in the older communities. As a natural consequence the pioneers were, as a rule, true Christians. It was this abiding confidence in an all-wise Providence that enabled them to bear up under the many trials and tribulations through which they were called upon to pass.

The early settlers of Miami County were plain in their attire. Their garments were manufactured at home and from flax and wool, as cotton then was comparatively scarce. The immigrants from the South wore goods of cotton, but those who came from the East could not be so favored. The latter had to depend on wool and flax. A lady's linsey dress would often last through the second summer for then style seldom changed. The pioneers were content with what they had. The making of the family clothing gave employment to the female portion of it and led to habits of economy among them. Men in the winter time wore light Indigo blue linsey, and now and then was seen a hunter in buckskin and moccasins. As has been said, the girls of the pioneer families were industrious. They were early taught industrious and economical habits by careful mothers. In this connection a page from the diary of a pioneer miss is given to show what could be accomplished by the willing hands of the grandmothers of the past:

"Fixed gown for Prude—Mended mother's riding hood—Spun short thread—Fixed two gowns for the Welsh girls—Carded tow—Spun linen—Worked on cheese basket—Hatchel'd flax with Hannah; we did 5 lbs—Pleated and ironed—Read a sermon of Doddridge's—Spooled a piece—Spun a piece—Milked the cows—Spun linen, did 50 knots—Made a broom of wheat straw—Spun thread to whiten—Set a red dye—Had two scholars from Mrs. Taylor's—Carded two pounds of whole wool and felt nationally—Spun harness twine—Scoured the pewter."

Girls of this sort made excellent wives. The young miss also tells of washing, cooking, knitting, weeding the garden, picking geese, etc., and of visits to neighbors. She dipped candles in the spring and made soap in the autumn. This latter was a burdensome business, but the soft soap was important for home use. Even before they could spin the pioneer girls of Miami County were taught to knit as soon as their little hands could hold the needles. Sometimes girls of six could knit stockings. Boys often had to knit their own suspenders. All the stockings and mittens for the family were made in large numbers. To knit a pair of mittens was a sharp and long day's work. A story is told of a pioneer boy in Spring Creek Township who came home one night and said that he had lost his mittens in the woods while chopping wood. His sister ran to a bundle of wool in the garret, carded and spun a big hank that night. It was racked and scoured the next morning and in twenty-four hours from the time the brother announced his loss he had a fine new pair of double mitts.

Another occupation which obtained among the girls of pioneer days was that of quilting. There was not then the variety of colors to be had now and it took no little ingenuity to make the product of the quilting frame a showy one. There was one satisfactory condition in the work and that was the quality of the cottons and linens of which the patchwork was made. They were none of the slimsy composition-filled, aniline-dyed calicoes of to-day. A piece of "chaney," "patch," and "copper plate" a hundred years old will be as fresh to-day as when woven. A sense of the idealization of quilt piecing is given also by the quaint descriptive names applied to the various patterns. Of these the "Rising Sun," "Log Cabin," and "Job's Trouble" were perhaps the most favored. There were many "quilting bees" during early times and they were great affairs, looked forward to with much interest. More than one resident of the county has heard his grandmother describe them. Not only were the girls taught to quilt, but they were initiated into the mysteries of the spinning-wheel. Their deft fingers were ever busy and all became experts at the various occupations that pertained to the comforts of the family.

If such were the useful occupations of the girls, what did the boys do? Like their sisters they were raised to habits of industry, frugality and self-reliance, and were independent and fearless. At an early age they were instructed in the use of the rifle and were taught to imitate the call of bird and beast. Hidden in a thicket or behind a log, they would call like wild turkeys, drawing whole flocks of these gamey birds within reach of their rifles. Bleating like fawns they would lure the timid mothers to their death. Then, barking like squirrels, the treetops would become alive with the little rodents. And packs of wolves far away in the forest or on the prairie would howl in answer to their calls. They also rivaled the Indian in throwing the tomahawk, and in handling the bow and arrow. They assisted their fathers in opening up the farms and in cultivating the soil. At night in the cabins the wonderful jack-knife would be brought forth and all sorts of things, useful as well as ornamental, would be fashioned from the pliant wood. They learned how to repair every sort of farm machinery and became adepts at it. There was no idleness in the boys and girls of pioneer days.

Previous to and during the period that witnessed the establishment of the county-seat at Troy—an event which will be treated in a future chapter—the currency of the settlers was poor and peculiar. Coonskins and other pelts became a circulating medium and were accepted at the early stores in exchange for the simple necessaries required by the neighborhood. There were no established banks, as the State Bank was not instituted till later. About the only "money" in circulation was a sort of coin known as "sharp-shins." It is said to have come from Kentucky. It was not received in payment for public lands and had little value in business transactions outside certain localities. The dollars in circulation were the Spanish milled and in order to have change, the pioneers took them to the nearest blacksmith, who proceeded to cut them into two, four and quite often five pieces, on the anvil, with the assistance of a cold chisel. If cut into five pieces the workman kept one for toll, leaving the owner of the original coin four quarters.

These smaller pieces became "bits" and "flips" and the terms "two-penny bit," "five-penny bit," "two-pence, flip and a bit," were in every day use. The cut pieces were called "sharp-shins" on account of the jagged edges which arose from the cutting, and as they wrought havoc with the pockets of their possessors leather bags were called into use to hold them. With this sort of outlandish currency the early settlers seemed to get along pretty well until better came into use, when the "sharp-shins" were relegated to the rear and eventually disappeared.

One of the most important functions connected with the opening up of the county were the frequent musters. These were great, not to say gorgeous events. The fear of Indian invasion and the protection of the settlements brought the muster into being and it held its place for many years. As early as 1788 a law which was passed for "regulating the militia" was approved by Governor St. Clair. All male citizens between the ages of sixteen and fifty were required to furnish themselves "a musket, bayonet, cartridge-box, pouch and powder-horn and bullet pouch, with one pound of powder and four pounds of lead, priming wire and six flints."

There were company musters once every two months, except December, January, February and March. The rules of the old militia kept the settlers familiar to a certain extent with miltary discipline and they were ready at all times to respond to any call. As a sample of the orders issued for a general muster I append the following:

> "Regimental Orders.
>
> "The commissioned officers of the 3rd, R, 2d B, 10th D. O. M. are hereby notified to appear armed and equipped according to law, at the court-house in Troy, on the 29th instant at 10 o'clock A. M. of said day and continue under the command of the Brigadier General of said brigade until three o'clock P. M. of the succeeding day, for the purpose of muster, inspection and drill.
>
> "By order of the Brigadier General.
>
> "D. Grosvenor, Col."

The regimental and company musters were important events. The occasion was often made a holiday and the whole neighborhood flocked to witness the affair. The brigadier general decked in "all the pomp and panoply of war" was a sight worth seeing, and Solomon "arrayed in all his glory" would have cut a sorry figure beside him. General John Webb, one of the pioneer settlers of Lost Creek Township, was a noted commander of the old militia. The ranking officers in blue coats, glittering with polished brass buttons, waving plumes and gorgeous epaulets were the observed of all observers and created much suppressed merriment among the poor privates and the concourse of spectators.

Among the old county musters whose glories long ago departed the following major generals were conspicuous: Robert Young, Hiram Bell and J. W. Frizell. Then came such brigadiers as James Fergus, Fielding Loury, John Webb, Dr. Keifer, and S. J. Hensley, while a lot of colonels vied with the generals in their brilliant yet grotesque uniforms and "military discipline." The generals were chosen by a vote of the county and it is natural to suppose that a good deal of "log rolling" was indulged in to secure the coveted places. General John Webb was once elected to this position and afterward, according to his personal narrative, became acting major general of the Tenth Division of Ohio Militia, which division embraced the counties of Montgomery, Darke, Shelby, and Miami, and consisted of ten regiments of infantry, riflemen, cavalry and artillery. Nearly all of the participants in the old musters had seen service against the Indians and not a few took part in the War of 1812.

When the county became well settled the musters went out of vogue, but their memories remanied for many years. They were excellent things since they taught the manual of arms and prepared the militia for any emergency. Some of the old company rolls are said to be extant to-day, and upon them are to be found the names of many who in later years became prominent citizens of the county, distinguished in various walks of life.

ROSTER OF COUNTY OFFICERS, 1807-1908.

After the formation of the county in 1807 its official life began. Officers were chosen, some by appointment, others by election. After a few years they were chosen at regular elections, a system which has extended to the present day. Following is a complete list of the officials of Miami County from 1807 to 1908:

Treasurers—Andrew Wallace, William Brown, John G. Telford, Jacob Knoop, William C. Knight, Andrew Patterson, George S. Murray, George C. Clyde, M. D. Mitchell, A. L. McKinney, S. D. Frank, Theodore Sullivan, John A. McCurdy, D. W. Sinks, S. N. Todd, George H. Rundle, J. C. Ullery, John Prugh, E. J. Eby, Jesse Burkett, C. W. Kiser, R. N. Burwell. Of the above Wallace and Brown were appointed, the latter serving thirty-eight years.

Auditors—H. W. Culbertson, David Grosvenor, Thomas S. Barrett, Jacob Knoop, B. F. Powers, Thomas B. Kyle, James Nesbitt, C. N. Hoagland, J. W. Defrees, R. J. Douglass, George C. Clyde, N. C. Clyde (filled a vacancy), Eli Tenney, W. I. Tenney, C. C. Barnett, Horatio Pearson, Boyd E. Furnas, Elmer E. Pearson, Albert E. Sinks.

Sheriffs—Stephen Dye, T. W. Furnas, Levi Hart, Leander Munsell, Robert Culbertson, John Shidler, Joseph Defrees, Stephen Johnston, Thomas Jay, Joseph Pearson, James M. Roe, Daniel Ellis, John Hart, C. T. Bear, S. D. Frank, William Evans, David L. Lee, D. C. Miller, John M. Campbell, Alexander M. Heywood, T. M. Ashworth, E. M. Wilbee, F. E. Scobey, W. E. Rogers, Ralph H. Gibson.

Clerks of the Court—Cornelius Westfall, John G. Telford, Thomas J. S. Smith, Benjamin W. Leavell, Barton S. Kyle, Charles V. Royce, Smith Talbott, J. W. Cruikshanks, John B. Latchford, J. B. Fouts, Abbott E. Childs, E. A. Jackson, J. H. Landis, Cloyd Smith.

Prosecuting Attorneys—E. Adams, William I. Thomas, Thomas S. Barrett, R. S. Hart, Ebenezer Parsons, H. G. Sellers, M. H. Jones, James T. Janvier, Walter S. Thomas, W. F. Ross, H. H. Williams, C. D. Wright, Moses B. Earnhart, Samuel Jones, Thomas B. Kyle, J. Harrison Smith, Alva B. Campbell, William E. Lytle.

Surveyors—Armstrong Brandon, Fielding Loury, Andrew Wallace, David Hoover, B. S. Cox, John Devor, James Cregan, William R. Flinn, J. T. Tullis, Simon Loop, James Hanks, John H. Wolcott, Jacob Knoop, William Giffin, John B. Fish, J. E. Alexander, John N. Rouzer, A. C. Buchanan, E. P. Kellogg, H. O. Evans, R. F. Walker, John W. Dowler, Harry J. Walker, H. E. Whitlock.

At the beginning surveyors were appointed, but not until a number of years after the formation of the county were they chosen at the regular elections.

Commissioners—Joseph McCorkle, Henry Gerard, James Naylor, William Barbee, Alexander Ewing, Thomas Coppock, Alexander McNutt, James Fergus, John Wilson, William Mendenhall, James Orr, James Johnston, William Barbee, Oliver Benton, Hugh Scott, William Wiley, Robert Morrison, Michael Williams, James Brown, E. P. Davis, Samuel Pierce, Richard Morrow, Jacob Knoop, Sr., Samuel Kelley, W. C. Knight, William Elliott, D. H. Morris, Isaac Sheets, William Scott, J. N. Wolcot, Jacob Knoop, Thomas B. Rose, Abner Jones, Ralph Peterson, B. F. Brown, Howard Mitchell, Jeremiah Fenner, Jacob Rohrer, J. C. Coate, James Sims, Jr., D. M. Rouzer, Nathan Jackson, James Saylor, D. M. Coate, Isaac Clyne, W. H. Northcutt, D. C. Branson, William Johnston, Edmund Lewis, John W. Widney, John C. Henderson, John T. Knoop, David C. Statler, B. B. Scarff, S. D. Frank, W. H. Alexander, Robert Martindale, Havilah Coppock, Ira T. Jackson, B. F. Smith, J. B. Studebaker, W. G. Wilson, W. B. Segner, J. E. Anderson, Thomas C. Brown, Joe M. Fink.

Infirmary Directors—There seems to be no official roster of this office prior to 1853, but the following is the roster of the Infirmary Board since that time:

James C. McKaig, Jacob Counts, Asa Coleman, George Throgmorton, David

Huston, S. M. Dickson, William H. Gahagan, James H. Pea, John D. DeWeese, George B. Frye, Jacob Knoop, William Hamilton, S. A. Cairns, Stephen Genslinger, Joseph Bains, B. N. Langston, Samuel Bowerman, John E. Anderson, Harrison Gear, T. M. Aspinall, E. E. Thompson, E. F. Sayers, L. L. Speagh, William E. Foster, Frank Beck, Havilah Coppock, J. W. Underwood.

Since 1853 the following citizens of the county have been superintendent of the Infirmary: George A. Murray, Jonathan Batson, Samuel Robinson, James Foster, Price Duncan, Cornelius N. Bowne.

Probate Judges—Joseph Pearson, Samuel Davis, W. N. Foster, A. L. McKinney, William C. Johnston, William J. Clyde, John C. Geyer, William B. Freshour, J. Harrison Smith, Eberhart W. Maier.

Representatives—Arthur Stewart, the county's first representative in the Ohio Legislature, took his seat at the session commencing December 8, 1808.

In the years following, his successors have been: Fielding Loury, Joseph Evans, James Blue, T. W. Furnas, Samuel Kyle, Robert Montgomery, Asa Coleman, James Fergus, John P. Finley, William Mendenhall, Leander Munsell, William Fielding, John McCorkle, William Barbee, Amos Perry, John Wilson, Thomas J. Smith, Stacey Taylor, Hiram Bell, John Briggs, Justin Hamilton, Thomas Shidler, John McClure, David Alexander, James Bryson, J. W. Riley, David H. Morris, Stephen Johnston, Joseph Potter, W. A. Weston, Tanzy Julian, Joseph Worley, Henry S. Mayo, Augustus Fenner, Levi N. Booher, Eli Tenney, M. H. Jones, W. B. McClung, S. E. Brown, J. H. Randall, David Alexander, J. C. Ullery, J. P. Williamson, George C. Clyde, Joseph E. Pearson, Samuel Sullivan, M. W. Hays, D. M. Murry, Noah H. Albaugh, James A. Sterrett, Van S. Deaton, John A. McCurdy, W. I. Tenney, H. J. Ritter.

Prominent among the senators elected from the counties comprising the senatorial district of which Miami has been a part were William I. Thomas, John W. Morris, A. Curtis Cable and George S. Long, citizens of the county.

Common Pleas Judges—The Court of Common Pleas was not instituted till many years after the birth of the county. The following is the roster of the Common Pleas Court to date: R. S. Hart, Ebenezer Pearson, Ichabod Corwin, Robert C. Fulton, George D. Burgess, H. H. Williams, Calvin D. Wright, Theodore Sullivan, Walter D. Jones.

Congressional—Below are found the distinguished men by whom the county has been represented in the National Congress to date: William McLean, Joseph H. Crane, Patrick G. Goode, Robert C. Schenk, M. B. Corwin, B. Stanton, M. H. Nichols, William Allen, J. F. McKinney, William Lawrence, J. Warren Keifer, Benjamin LeFevre, Robert M. Murray, Charles M. Anderson, Elihu S. Williams, Martin K. Gantz, George W. Wilson, Walter L. Weaver, Thomas B. Kyle.

Coroners—Dr. J. W. Means, Dr. J. W. Calvin, Dr. J. Funderburg, Dr. Charles Gaines, Dr. John Beamer, Dr. Van S. Deaton.

Recorders—Cornelius Westfall, William Barbee, Z. Riley, George D. Burgess, J. Widener, J. P. Williamson, Hiram M. Lukens, George Green, Isaac A. Landis, E. J. Eby, J. O. Davis, J. C. Moore, Clarkson Coate, Perry Moyer.

CHAPTER IV.

THRILLING INCIDENTS OF PIONEER LIFE.

Contrast of Past and Present—Emigrant Trails—Encounters with Wild Animals—Pioneer Reminiscences—England Pays Bounty on Scalps—Indian Murders—Adoptions into the Tribes—The Moffit Boys—Col. Johnston.

During the settling up of the county and the region adjacent there occurred many thrilling incidents which have come down to us in personal narratives and otherwise. If all were to be described, many pages would be taken up, but some of these events are worthy of telling in a work of this nature. The traveler of today, seated in the comfortable railroad coach, speeding away at the rate of fifty miles an hour, along the banks of broad rivers and the shores of inland seas, upon whose waters float the palatial steamer, and the many white-winged crafts of commerce; through a country made up of highly cultivated farms and beautiful rural homes, where contentment and thrift prevail—a country studded with flourishing towns and populous cities, where the smoke is seen curling from the towering chimney tops of the great workshops and factories, and hundreds of spires gleam in the sunshine—finds it difficult to realize that within the space of one hundred years these ships of trade and pleasure have taken the place of the bark canoe of the red man, and these mansions stand upon the spot where stood the Indian wigwam; and that where now burns the fires of forge and furnace, blazed the council fires of the painted sachem and his dusky braves, around which they danced the wild war-dance, their tomahawks glittering in the lurid light and their demoniacal shouts reverberating throughout the silent and unbroken forests; and that here occurred the gigantic struggle of the pioneer, with both the wild beast and the Indian, culminating in the successful contest of white man's skill with Indian cunning, civilization with savagery.

There is nothing to be found in the annals of chivalry to equal the acts of heroism performed by these people in braving the dangers that beset them on every hand in the accomplishment of the great work they had undertaken. And now before the obliterating hand of time erases from the tablets of our memories the recollection of those perilous times, I shall endeavor to perpetuate the heroic records of the pioneers. It must be remembered that the first settlers of this region entered it poorly equipped for the struggle before them. The lumbering wagon had transported across the mountains their scanty belongings. They were not rich in this world's goods, and theirs were the "annals of the poor." Yet they brought from beyond the barriers of the Alleghanies healthy bodies and strong wills. They knew what lay before them. They knew that the wilderness of Ohio, vast in extent and practically unknown, a veritable *terra incognita,* stood ready not only to welcome, but to bury them within its vastness.

Many of these people had left more comforts than they could expect to find in the new land. Babes in arms were transported from the newly formed states into the Miami wilderness, their lullabies often being the long, lone howl of the wolf or the grinding of the wheels of the pioneer wagon against the rocks that fringed the forest trail. No doubt there were adventures a-plenty between the old home and the new, but history is silent as to this. The lone watches of the campfires on the way, the attacks by the wolf and wildcat, the battle against the forest storm and many other perils served to keep the immigrants on the *qui vive.* The smaller children rode in the wagons, while the larger ones tramped alongside. Thus the long and lonesome journey was made. Not infrequently a child sickened and died on the way.

Then came the saddest and most pathetic part of the trip. The little body was habited for the grave by the sorrowing mother, a rude coffin of bark was furnished by loving hands and a grave made in the forest. Sometimes the grave was made in the trail and after the simple funeral the wagons were driven over it to obliterate all traces from the eye of the Indian and the scent of the wild beast. Often on these mournful occasions the comforting words of the Burial Service were read: "I am the resurrection and the life," and a hymn sometimes floated heavenward from the grave of the little one. The long trail westward those days was actually dotted with little mounds. The boughs of the forests waved mournfully over them, and when spring came wild flowers bloomed profusely over them. One can imagine the grief of the pioneer mother when she turned from the grave of her child, knowing that never again would she drop a tear upon it, for the new home beckoned her on and on, and trials almost as great as the separation lurked among the forests of the Miami.

Not all the adventures of the pioneer families were had with Indians. Many of them were encounters with wild beasts, the bear, the wolf and the ferocious wildcat. Bears, panthers and wolves were quite numerous. The latter at times were very troublesome and dangerous. Collecting in large packs, they would at night roam the forests throughout the settlements. Stock of all kinds had to be kept housed at night during the winter season. Bears, when hard pressed for food, would approach the settlements, looking for a stray pig or calf. I trust I may be permitted to quote from the narrative of an early settler who tells in graphic language an adventure which overtook him when he was a boy within the limits of this county:

"One of the many duties that devolved upon me after the death of my father," he says, "was that of providing meat for the family, which I did with my rifle. I was then about sixteen. I was a good marks-man and the country abounded in all kinds of game. I never had to go far to get a deer—have often killed them in sight of the house. I remember of having one morning shot a large buck from the doorstep. Wild turkeys were numerous. We often caught them in large numbers, in pens, or traps, made by scooping a large hole in the ground, over which we built a covering by laying rails across each other, as in building a log cabin, or as the boys build their quail traps, then digging a trench or sloping passageway from the surface outside down into the pit. In this passageway and pit grains of corn were scattered, which led them down into the trap. Once in, they were perfectly secure, for a turkey never looks down, only when feeding. Whole flocks were often caught in this way.

"One morning, finding one of the beegums overturned and rifled of its contents, I saw at once that a bear had been there and concluded that he would be back the next night for more honey. That night I loaded an old musket with several bullets to make sure work of it. I did not have long to wait, for about ten o'clock bruin made his appearance. I saw him sniffing about the hives, which were only a few yards from the house. It was pretty dark, but I could distinguish him very well from a window, or rather an opening covered with a curtain (we had no glass windows until long after that). While my brother held back the curtain I took deliberate aim and let him have it. When the smoke cleared away we saw a large black ball bouncing up and down on the grass for several minutes, when it became quiet. On approaching we found the bear stretched out at full length, dead. It was the largest and fattest bear I ever saw. We now had plenty of meat to do us for a long time.

"During the winter following the death of my father an incident occurred which to me proved a thrilling adventure, and came very near winding up my earthly career. As it will serve to show the dangers to which we were exposed, I will tell it. One evening mother informed me that our stock of corn meal was about exhausted. 'I had hoped,' said she 'that it would hold out until the heavy snow had passed away. You and Charley had better shell enough corn to fill two sacks, which will do us until winter is over. This you can take to mill on horseback.'

" 'All right,' said I. Brother and myself went to work, and soon had the corn shelled. Bright and early the next morning, throwing the bag of corn across 'Old Doll's' back, with a kiss and a 'God protect you,' from mother, I started on my lonesome journey. The mill was one of the few in the Spring Creek region, and not a house on the entire way, the route being the usual blazed one. The snow was deep and the weather intensely cold. My clothing was light, being made of linsey-woolsey. As a substitute for an overcoat, mother had wrapped her old woolen shawl about my shoulders.

"So slow was my journey that it was late when I reached the mill, where I found several persons ahead of me, waiting for their grists. It being a horse mill and a poor one at that, I found that I would not be able to get back for two days. This to me was a great disappointment, as I had expected to return the next day. I knew mother was expecting me. After I had looked after the comforts of the old mare and eaten my lunch, I turned in for the night with the others, three of whom were boys near my own age—boys generally had to do the milling. Our bed was the bare earth, the ground floor of the mill, in front of a large fire-place. Whoever awoke in the night was expected to look after the fire. The lunch I had brought with me consisted of corn dodgers and boiled venison, to be washed down with cold water. Having to remain much longer than I had calculated on doing, I ran short of eatables, and might have gone hungry had it not been for a generous-hearted boy who divided his lunch with me. This poor lad had been made an orphan by the last Indian raid. During our stay at the mill, with sobs and tears he told me the heart-rending story of the massacre of his family.

''I did not receive my grist until about four o'clock of my second day at the mill. It was then snowing hard and had been for several hours. I saw it would be far in the night before I could reach home, but nevertheless I was determined to start, contrary to the miller's advice. As he said, I would have to travel so slow, on account of the great depth of the snow, I might become chilled through and perish on the way. And, then, the country was infested with wolves that by reason of the severity of the long winter were in a famishing condition and had become bold and dangerous. But having made up my mind to see mother that night, I started, making but slow progress through the deep snow.

''The snow had now ceased falling, and the full moon was shining brightly, making the night as light as day; an oppressive stillness prevailed and an unusual feeling of loneliness possessed me. How I wished for the company of our dear old dog, 'Pomp'; anything to break the death-like silence would be a relief. Just then I heard a sound that sent a chill to my heart. Checking the mare for a moment, I again heard the unmistakable howling of wolves in the distance ahead of me. I knew the sound came from a large prairie or marsh which they always infested, a neck of which I would have to cross two miles from home.

''It would not do to hesitate now, so I urged the mare on and soon reached the prairie. I found that the wolves, with a few exceptions, were a great ways off, in the direction of a red-brush thicket. As I started across the opening one sent out a peculiar howl just ahead of me. On passing it, it did not retreat, but sulked along behind me, stopping frequently to give a howl, as if calling the others, and in a short time was answered by a hundred. As I believe to this day, they understood each other, for they were evidently drawing nearer to me; before this they had remained stationary.

''On emerging from the prairie to the higher ground and looking back, I could see several of them plunging through the snow on my track. Until then I was confident of reaching home before they could overtake me, but now I saw that it would be impossible to do so. I therefore concluded to dismount and climb the first desirable tree I came to. By this time I could hear the infernal pack coming, and riding up under a large tree, I hastily threw a bag of meal over a convenient limb, for I knew they would tear it to pieces if they could get at it. The mare, comprehending the situation, had become very restless, and just as I threw the bag over the limb, she jumped to one side,

STILLWATER RIVER, PLEASANT HILL

OLD CANAL LOCKS, TROY

LUDLOW FALLS

ON THE BANKS OF THE CANAL, TROY

throwing me to the ground, and at once started for home, making fast time, being rid of her load. I saw that I could not get into the tree very readily, so I ran to a small dogwood tree near by, and just as I drew my last leg up a wolf snapped my foot, holding on for an instant, doing me no harm. I was now out of their reach and safe, if I could only keep up the circulation of my blood. I was chilled through and through, but by whipping my arms against my body I soon got all right. My perch was a frail one, requiring considerable effort to keep it.

"On looking down I beheld about twenty of the brutes leaping towards me, snarling and gnashing their teeth in mad frenzy. They were of the large grey variety. Numbers kept coming; in an hour's time the pack had increased to at least fifty. They finally got to fighting among themselves; when one got wounded they would tear it to pieces, devouring it, so nearly famished were they. A terrible stench from their fetid breaths and damp bodies assailed me. It was almost unbearable, I being only twelve feet above them. I saw a number leaving on the trail of the mare, but they were too late; she would reach home before they could overtake her. On seeing the mare returning without me, mother could not help but think that I had been devoured or at least might be perishing with the cold in a treetop, the only possible chance for my escape, and I feared that in the anxiety and excitement of the moment she might start out in search of me and be herself destroyed. I fervently prayed to God that she might not; and that He would protect me as He did Daniel of old when in the lion's den.

"Finally I became calm and hopeful, waiting for the night to pass away; but how slowly the hours dragged! At last I noticed streaks of light shooting up in the east; the welcome sun would soon shine again upon the world, and then I would be relieved. The wolves by this time began to leave. Some of them, after going a short distance, would sit upon their haunches and look wistfully at me, reluctant to give me up, but in a short time all were gone.

"Just as the sun, in all its refulgence, burst through the treetops what did I see but mother coming up the trail mounted upon 'Old Doll.' I will not attempt to describe my feelings on that joyous meeting. Suffice it to say that I mounted the mare, taking mother behind me, and we were soon warming ourselves before the roaring fire that brother Charley had prepared for us. After drinking a bowl of strong coffee—real coffee—I felt as good as new. Had I been a minute later in mounting the dogwood tree, in all probability the world would never have known that I ever existed."

The foregoing is only one of the many incidents that crowded the lives of the boys who lived in the Miami wilderness. Theirs was a strenuous life, beset with dangers from wild beast and savages, but all acquitted themselves bravely. Their adventures, coupled with the work they did in clearing the land, hardened their muscles and kept them ever on the alert. The writer has heard more than one thrilling story from the lips of the first settlers and the narration of all would tax the capacity of a large volume. Before proceeding to give several thrilling incidents that took place within the county during the war of 1812 I hope I may be pardoned for telling the story of a Mrs. Davis, who at one time was a resident of the county in an early day. I had often heard the story from her descendants and its authenticity is not to be doubted.

Mrs. Davis was a widow with three small children and occupied a home in the wild wood region on the west side of the Miami River. About the only serious annoyance and drawback to peace was the immense number of wildcats which prowled through the woods and decimated the poultry. Stumpy-tailed, green-eyed, they strolled through the clearing and sunned themselves on the limbs of neighboring trees, blinking calmly at the clucking hens, which they marked for their prey, and even venturing to throw suspicious glances at the infant sleeping in its cradle. Sociable in their disposition, they appeared to even claim a kind of proprietary interest in the premises and in the appurtenances thereof. Shooting a dozen and trapping as many more made little appreciable difference in the numbers of the feline colony. Mrs. Davis at last constructed with much labor a close shed within which her poultry were nightly housed. This worked well for a season. But one evening a commotion in the hennery informed her that the depredators were again at work. Hastily seizing an axe in one hand and carrying a light in the other, she hurried to the scene and two wildcats were found feasting sumptuously on her plumpest pullet. The banqueters were evidently a mother and her well-grown son, whom she was instructing in the predatory art and practice.

The younger animal clambered to the hole where it had made its entrance and was about to make a successful exit, when the matron, setting the light on the ground, struck the animal with the axe, breaking its back and bringing it to the ground. Without a moment's warning, the mother cat sprang upon the widow, and fastening its powerful claws in her breast, tore savagely at her neck with its teeth. The poor woman, shrieking with terror, strove with all her might to loosen the animal's hold, but in vain. The maternal instinct had awakened all its fierceness, and as the blood commenced to flow in streams from the deep scratches and bites inflicted by its teeth and claws, its ferocity redoubled.

It tore and bit as if nothing would appease it but the luckless victim's death. Mrs. Davis would doubtless have fallen a prey to its savage rage but for a happy thought which flashed across her mind in her desperate straits. Snatching her light from the ground she applied it to the hindquarters of the wildcat. The flame instantly singed off the fur and scorched its flesh. With a savage screech it released its hold and fell to the ground, where she succeeded in dispatching the creature. It proved to be one of the largest of its species, measuring nearly three feet from its nose to the tip of its tail, and weighed over thirty pounds.

For many years this colony of pioneer wildcats continued to ''make things hot'' for the settlers in that region, but most of them were finally exterminated and the remnant emigrated to some more secluded locality.

Mrs. Davis had a grown daughter named Nancy, as winsome a lass as was to be found in the Miami wilderness. Nancy Davis had a score of admirers among the young men of the settlements and was the accredited belle of the region. She was a good rider and an expert shot with the frontier rifle, and on several occasions had carried off honors at the "shooting matches" in vogue in pioneer days.

While she was one day wandering through the forest not far from home she was suddenly startled from her reverie by a hoarse, deep, cavernous growl, and as she lifted her eyes they were opened wide with dismay and terror. Not twenty paces from her, rising on his huge-clawed iron feet, was a wide-mouthed, vicious-looking black bear of unusual size, who had evidently been "worked up" and was "spoiling for a fight." That the bear meant mischief was plain, but the girl was a pioneer's daughter and her fright produced no symptoms of anything like fainting. Bears could climb, she knew very well, but then, if she got out of his way quickly enough he might not take the trouble to follow her.

It was the only chance, and she sprang for the nearest tree. It was of medium size, with a rough bark and easy to climb. All the better for her, if none the worse for the bear, and in an instant she was perched among the lower branches. For two or three minutes the shaggy monster seemed puzzled and as if it doubted what course he had best pursue if he wanted the pioneer belle; then he came slowly up and began smelling and muzzling round the roots of the tree as if to obtain the necessary information in order to enable him to decide the important question.

The young woman in the tree was no coward, but little as was her hope of being heard in that forest solitude, she let her fears have their own way and screamed for help. As if aroused and provoked by the sound of her voice, the bear began to try the bark with his foreclaw while his fierce little eyes looked up wistfully into the face of the maiden and his little tongue came twisting spirally from his half opened jaws, as if he were gloating over a choice titbit. It happened that a neighbor young man, and by the way, one of the girl's admirers, soon reached the scene of action. Though completely unarmed, he did not hesitate to come to close quarters with bruin, and seizing a heavy stick, he commenced to vigorously belabor the hindquarters of the brute, who, however, only responded to these attentions by turning his head and winking viciously at his assailant, still pursuing his upward gymnastics in the direction of the treed girl, who on her part was clambering towards the upper branches of the tree.

The young man redoubled his blows, and for a moment bruin seemed disposed to turn and settle matters with the party at his rear, but finally, to the dismay of both the maiden and her champion, the bear, evidently deeming his readiest escape from attack would be to continue his ascent, resumed his acrobatic performance and was about to place his forefeet on the lower limbs, when his foe, dropping his futile weapon, seized the stumpy tail of the beast with his strong hands and, bracing his feet against the trunk of the tree, pulled with all his might. The girl, seeing the turn that matters had taken, immediately broke off a large limb and stoutly hammered the bear's snout. This simultaneous attack in front and rear was too much for bruin, and with an amusing air of bewilderment, he descended in a slow and bewildered manner and galloped off into the forest.

It is not on record whether Miss Nancy rewarded the courageous youth with her hand or not, but he certainly deserved some consideration at her fair hands. The foregoing are some of the thrilling incidents that enlivened pioneer days among the wild beasts that infested the lands of the Miami a century ago. At times it was not safe to go far from home for fear of the savage four-footed denizens of the forest. During certain seasons of the year, when food was scarce, it was dangerous to venture far, for the wild beasts were ravenous and did not hesitate to attack the settlers. It is not believed that any of the pioneers fell victims to the rapacity of the wild animals, but narrow escapes were numerous and would thrill the reader if all of the personal encounters could be recorded.

With the breaking out of the War of 1812 the pioneers were thrown into a new peril, which discounted anything that they had hitherto experienced. The British did not hesitate to turn loose upon the isolated settlements bands of savages, who swept the forest like a besom of destruction. Not only this, but they placed a bounty on scalps, and many were actually sold by the red fiends at the English posts in Canada. There is extant an old song which had for its refrain a stanza like this:

> "Scalps are sold at stated prices,
> England pays the price in gold."

This atrocious bargain on the part of the mother country with a lot of bloodthirsty fiends who carried in their hearts no attributes of mercy cannot be condoned. It is no wonder that the settlers along the Miami lived in terror of this red war cloud which hovered over them throughout the whole period of that war. It seemed as if the entire border would be decimated by the tomahawk and scalping knife, and there was a constant fear everywhere. Block houses were established in various parts of the county, and to these the inhabitants would flee at every alarm. When one observes the present state of happiness and prosperity in our midst he can scarcely believe that such a state of affairs as I have described ever existed here. The wild beasts of the forest were outdone in their ferocity by the wilder Indian. The savages, egged on by the English, stopped at no cruelty, and all the time the settler was in the direst peril.

Small war parties of Indians reached this locality. Raids were made by them within our borders, but strange to say, but little murdering was done. The settlers were constantly on their guard and the savages feared their murdering rifles. A number of cattle were killed or carried off by the marauders, and several people were slain and scalped. One of the most notable of these killings within our borders was that of the Dilbone family, which occurred in Spring Creek Township.

The killing of the Dilbones, which occurred in August, 1813, was preceded by the Indian assault on David Gerard, who lived four miles north of Troy. Gerard, in company with a neighbor named Ross, was cutting timber. They were not apprised of the nearness of the Indians until a shot was fired from ambush and Gerard fell. Ross turned and fled for his life and succeeded in outstripping the redskins, who soon came back to their victim. When the nearest neighbors reached the scene of the attack it was found that Gerard had been scalped and not an Indian was in sight. But for the alarm spread by the terrified Ross, the entire Gerard family would have been massacred, but, as it was, only one victim had succumbed to the fury of the savages.

The Dilbones resided two miles north of the Gerard home. They were among the earliest settlers of the county and were well known people. Dilbone and his wife were found at work pulling flax. As they had heard nothing of the killing of Gerard, they were unsuspicious of danger, and therefore were not able to make any resistance to their enemies. It was a beautiful summer day and the sun was sinking slowly behind the distant hills, the last rays flooding the flax fields with a shower of golden light. At the first volley by the Indians Dilbone fell with a bullet in the breast, being unable to render his wife any aid. He was mortally wounded, but managed to secrete himself in the corn and was overlooked by the enemy. From his hiding place he saw the fiends shoot and scalp his wife, after which they cleared out with the bloody trophies of their foray. There were only two Indians engaged in this killing, and one was only a half-grown boy, who in all probability was taking his first lessons in warriorship. The twain carried but one rifle, which was lost, but was picked up the following day. Dilbone survived his wound till the next day, but his wife died. It was afterwards ascertained that these same two Indians were seen along Spring Creek the day previous to the killing, but they disappeared so mysteriously that their whereabouts could not be traced.

Of course this incursion into the county created the greatest excitement. The whole border was thrown into a state of alarm, and it was for a time feared that a large body of Indians was about to be precipitated upon the Miami settlements. The fact that the two Indians concerned in the murders on Spring Creek went north after their bloody work gave rise to the belief that they were taking the scalps to their white employers for the promised reward. About this time a woman named Martin was scalped by marauding Indians, but she survived her wounds and lived for many years afterward in this county.

There came into the county previous to General Clarke's expedition against the Piqua towns, two boys by the name of Moffit. They had passed through the most exciting experiences. Their home was in Greenbrier County, Virginia. One day while hunting squirrels they were surprised by a foraging party of Indians and made captives. John, who was the eldest, presented his gun to the redskins, but the Indian made proffers of good intentions and the brothers were deceived and secured.

From the date of their unlucky experience began a long captivity. John was forthwith adopted into the tribe and given an Indian name. His brother, whose physique was more delicate, was marked for death, but a squaw who had recently lost a son interceded for the boy and he was handed over to her. The ceremony of Indian adoption was somewhat peculiar and may be given here. George Moffit was first required to run the gauntlet, after which his Indian mother took some dry ashes which she placed on a square bit of bark. She next rubbed the ashes on her fingers and proceeded to pluck from the boy's head every hair but enough which formed a scalplock after the manner of the

the Miami. Firmly held by several red Indians. This ceremony was not to young Moffit's liking, but he had to submit to it, which he did with no good grace.

The conclusion of the adoption ceremonies was an immersion in the waters of Amazons, the bewildered boy was dragged to the banks of the river and was repeatedly soused in the water till he was declared to have no white blood in him. For a year or two afterward he remained to all intents and purposes an Indian. He was still in the hands of his captors when Gen. Clarke entered the Miami country in 1782. During the night battle waged by Clarke's little band against the Indians George Moffit made his escape and fled in the direction of the Stillwater. He did not care to go back to the whites, so accustomed had he become to the wild habits of his tribe, and he looked upon the whites as invaders who were unjustly persecuting the Indians. But the time was coming when George, or "Kiterhoo," as he was called by the Indians, was to leave his captors. His father, who still resided in Virginia, heard through other Indian captives that his boy was alive and with the red tribes. This information eventually brought about young Moffit's return to his home. John remained a captive nearly two years after his brother's restoration to the old home, when he was ransomed by French traders, so that both boys saw the family roof again, with exciting experiences that would fill a whole volume.

Years afterward the Moffit boys became residents of this county, in 1808, and purchased land not far from Piqua. George Moffit died in 1831 and John survived him a few years. Both married and raised families and became substantial citizens of the county. Singular to relate, the two brothers for many years after their return to civilization retained some of their Indian habits. They were familiar with forest life and could track a deer when the knowledge of a settler was in this particular utterly at fault.

Another pioneer of the county who had a large and vivid experience with the Indians was Col. Johnston, who during the War of 1812 was an Indian agent, and by his excellent management and coolness kept a large number of Indians on his land near Piqua and prevented them from taking up arms against the Americans. Among the Indians thus managed by Col. Johnston were Shawnees, Delawares, Wyandots and Senecas. At one time he had six thousand red men under his charge. The Indians hostile to Col. Johnston frequently plotted against his life, for they realized that while he lived he would keep his charges neutral and thus prevent them from deluging the frontier in blood.

All these murderous plots failed. At one time it was designed to kill him where he was expected to pass on a journey. Not far from the Indian camp at Piqua, which Col. Johnston visited daily, grew a wild plum thicket. A lot of hostiles secreted themselves among the underbrush and prepared to end the career of the white man whom they so cordially hated. Col. Johnston had not the remotest suspicion of the plot. The day came and the death hour was near at hand. Fortunately, just before the culmination of the scheme some Delaware women warned the agent, and the would-be assassins fled. Pursuit was instituted as soon as possible, but the villains escaped and, it is said, were later on concerned in the killing of the Dilbones.

At another time Col. Johnston proved the stuff he was made of and showed what sort of men it took to keep down the turbulent characters that threatened the Miami frontier. It seems that two members of the militia, in a spirit of pure malice, fired upon a party of friendly Indians protected by a flag of truce furnished by Col. Johnston. Two Indians were killed and the remainder were taken to Greenville as prisoners, a most shameful and unwarranted act. Changing their minds, the militiamen brought the prisoners to Piqua and turned them over to Col. Johnston. He decided to take them back to Greenville and restore them to their people.

As the journey at that time from Piqua to Greenville was one full of danger, Col. Johnston applied to the commander at Piqua for an escort. The cowardly militia refused to go. Then Col. Johnston said he would accept the responsibility himself and conduct the Indians twenty-five miles through the forest alone. It was indeed a dangerous journey, for the Indians had recently committed several murders in the region through which the trip had to be made. Col. Johnston saddled his horse, bade his wife farewell, scarcely expecting to see her again, and set out with his charges. He made the journey unmolested, and having delivered the Indians back, set out on his return trip alone. Great was the surprise of the militia at Piqua when they saw the brave old agent safe again in their midst, but not one of the dastardly fellows could look him in the eye without quailing, and the reader can imagine, for we cannot describe, the opinion Col. Johnston had of them.

I have not space in this book to narrate all the thrilling personal incidents connected with the settlement of the county. I have given only a few of the many, but from them the reader will form a good idea of the whole. It took courage and perseverance, hardihood and untiring watchfulness to wrench from the wild beast and the wilder Indians the rich and beautiful lands of the Miami. The people who now inhabit the county, while they honor the memory of the pioneers, can never fully appreciate the suffering and heroism which were required to make this region what is is to-day.

CHAPTER V.

EARLY TRANSPORTATION

Corduroy Roads—First Gravel Road—The National Road—Braddock's Road—Early Stage Lines, Stages and Stage Drivers—Famous Taverns—Water Transportation—Freighting on the Miami—To New Orleans by River in 1819; an Unfortunate Voyage—Dr. Dorsey's Recollections of Flat Boat Navigation—Canal Construction—The Miami and Erie Canal—Benefits of theCanal—the Old Mail Service—Postal Ratesin1816—Postoffice Established at Piqua—The Early Postmaster—A Mail Carrier's Adventure—A Century's Progress.

Transportation and travel in the early days of the county bordered on the primitive. For a long time there were no roads at all, only the buffalo trails, and these zig-zagged in every direction. They were at first used by the men who opened the wilderness and were followed by the blazed ways from one settlemnet or town to another. As early as 1806 a road was blazed to Greenville through the forest, and was for a time the main thoroughfare, so to speak, in this region. As the various settlements grew and the people increased in numbers by accessions from other localities, better roads became necessary, and the settlers began to construct them. Long before the days of the turnpike came corduroy roads, which for a while seemed to fill a "long-felt want."

J. M. Thomas, one of the early pioneers, has written as follows of the corduroy road:

"The best roads were the corduroy roads. The manner in which they were constructed was to get together the men and boys of the neighborhood with their axes and oxen, 'Buck and Berry,' as the oxen were almost always called. The men who drove them had a stick about six feet long with a leather strap tied to one end of it, with which he would guide his team. The men would cut down trees, split them into rails and haul them with the ox-teams to the worst places in the road. They would first lay brush in the road to support the rails and prevent them from sinking too deep in the mire; then lay the rails on top of the brush and shovel mud over them. This was the best road we had in those days. We did not dream of steam or electric railways.

"I remember when the only road from my father's house to Troy was the old Indian trail. We lived south of where the Peters' nursery now is, about two miles south of Troy. When I was about ten years old I recollect seeing the men surveying the route for the road now called the Northcutt or Westlake Pike. It was then made a corduroy road, laid with brush and rails to give us a better road to Troy than the old Indian trail, which was only a path running through the woods. This path led from my father's house along the route of the present pike till it reached the point where Henry Wilson's house stands, then it struck off through the bottom lands now owned by John and Henry Wilson, coming into Troy about the south end of Market Street. Woods all the way, no canal to cross, no hoisting bridges and no locomotive whistles to frighten our ponies. About the only noise we heard along the old corduroy road was the barking of the squirrel, the drumming of the pheasant on an old log, or the hoot of an owl."

The early road leading from Troy to Covington was mud almost all the way. Mr. Thomas says that frequently, when traveling between these two places on horseback, he was compelled to dismount and lead the horse for fear the animal would swamp and tumble him off. He would have to go out in the woods and get on the old logs to keep out of the water. Not infrequently a misstep would throw him into the water, where he would be treated to a first-class ducking. After the first Troy-Covington Road had been given a trial, a few Trojans concluded to build a better one. They constructed a plank-road, but alas! the plank soon rotted in the swampy ground, and gravel was next tried in road building. The last experiment proved a success. It was probably the first gravel road in the county. The lack of good roads was a detriment to the settlement of the county. True, neighbors were few and far between those days, but milling had to be done, and this necessity, to some extent, brought about the construction of better roads than the primitive ones. Intercourse between the towns was another inducement to road building, but many years elapsed before the first rude county roads gave way to the magnificent turnpikes which now reach in every direction.

As early as 1806, however, Congress took a hand in road building in Ohio. In that year it passed an act "To regulate the laying out and making a road from Cumberland, in the State of Maryland, to the State of Ohio," and it was this act which enabled Thomas Jefferson to become the official father of the National Road. It is interesting to note that this famous thoroughfare passes through a portion of Miami County. The old National Road enters Bethel Township at its southeast corner, and after crossing the township in a southeasterly direction, passing through Brandt and Phoneton, crosses the Miami at Tadmor and debouches into Montgomery County. This road was to the early West what the Appian Way was to Rome. It was the first great highway from the East to the West, and maintained its prominence until the canal and the steam roads came into vogue.

Since the National Road did much to open up the Miami Valley and its adjacent territory, let us briefly consider some of its history and characteristics. It was conceived in the brain of Albert Gallatin, a Swiss, who came to this country in 1780 and afterward became secretary of the treasury under Jefferson. Gallatin broached his project of a great National highway to many distinguished people, and in 1806 President Jefferson appointed a commission to look into the matter. The National Road, as originally designed, was to cost $7,000,000 and was to reach from the Potomac to the Mississippi. It passed through the states of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois and was "one of the most important steps in that movement of National expansion which followed the conquest of the West." Undoubtedly its construction was one of the influences which secured and held the West to the Union, for the population which by the opening of this highway rushed into the Ohio Valley saved the embryonic western states from threatened perils and hastened their settlement and subsequent prosperity.

Everybody—pioneers, traders, adventurers—hailed the National Road with delight. Before the building of the road west the routes of travel followed the zigzagging buffalo trails or the winding pathways of the Indian. These, of course, were not satisfactory. It has been said that the course of the buffalo through Maryland and Pennsylvania is the most historic route in America, and one of the most famous in the world. The old Braddock Road may be called the genesis of the National Turnpike. The blazed trees which marked this route for many years pointed out the trail of the unfortunate British general to the battlefield of the Monongahela. Washington, however, previous to Braddock's expedition, had blazed a way to the Ohio Valley, and this route, strange to say, afterwards became the marching ground of the British army.

For seventy-five years Braddock's Road answered all the imperative needs of modern travel, though the journey over it at most seasons was a rough experience. During the winter the road was practically impassible. All that was needed to turn the current of immigration towards the Ohio was a good thoroughfare. Many times was the question asked, "When will it be built?" Not until the nineteenth century was the question answered. It may be said that the creation of Ohio is directly responsible for the building of the National Road.

On December 30, 1806, the commissioners appointed by Jefferson to lay out the National Road made their first report. These commissioners were Thomas Moore, of Maryland; Joseph Kerr, of Ohio, and Eli Williams, also of Maryland. After the first report came another, in 1808, and in this it was announced that the contracts had been made for clearing the surveyed road of brush and trees. Contracts for the first ten miles west of Cumberland were signed in April and May, 1811, and the following year they were completed. In 1817 the road was brought to Uniontown, and not long thereafter United States mail coaches were run from Washington, D. C., to Wheeling. The next year it was proposed to open the road to the Ohio River. The cost of the eastern division of the road staggered many. It exceeded the estimate by $3,000 per mile.

No sooner had the first division of the National Road been completed than travel across the Alleghany Mountains into the Ohio basin began. Hundreds, aye, thousands of people, faced westward, looking for homes, and the new highway presented an animated scene. It was not until 1825 that Congress authorized the extension of this great road into the State of Ohio, and this act was greeted with immense enthusiasm by the western people. Nearer and nearer the National Road was creeping towards Miami County. In 1837 Lieutenant Dutton, of the United States Engineers, with headquarters at Springfield, advertised for proposals for road building in which he said:

> "Notice is hereby given to the proprietors of the land on that part of the National Road lying between Springfield and the Miami River to remove all fences and other barriers now across the line, a reasonable time being allowed them to secure that portion of their present crops which may lie upon the location of the road."

As this highway stretched westward, travel over it became tremendous. In a short space of time vehicles of every description from the smallest wagons to the creaking "mountain ships" crowded the new thoroughfare. It was almost blocked with herds of cattle and gaily-painted four and six-horse coaches rumbled over its broad bed. Rude taverns sprung into being every few miles, with gaudily painted signs denoting entertainment for man and beast, and, in short, everywhere along the road the scenes were lively and unceasing.

The National Road was a toll one from the first. The toll takers were appointed by the governor and there were some lively scrambles for the places. All persons "going or returning from worship, muster, common place of business, on farm or woodland, funeral, mill or place of election, common place of trading within the county in which they resided," were permitted to travel free. School children and clergymen were also on the free list. People who made lengthy trips over the road had the privilege of paying toll the entire distance and receiving a certificate guaranteeing free passage to their destination. The gate keepers usually received a salary of $30 per month.

The opening of the National Road, which was the first linking of the West to the East, gave rise to many stage lines which competed with one another for the traffic. These cumbersome vehicles, which disappeared long ago, were marvelous things in their day and were "fearfully and wonderfully made." Many were decorated and richly painted, the linings being often silk plush. They usually had three seats inside and could comfortably carry nine passengers. Some were long, unsightly affairs, without springs or braces, and the harness was heavy and uncouth. There were fifteen-inch backbands, and hipbands of ten inches, and the traces were little less than loads of chains.

Nor were the old stages the only vehicles that rattled over the National Road through this county. There were greater ones called "freighters." These were "broad treads," with four-inch tires, and some of the loads they carried were little short of marvelous. One of these freighters crossed the mountains in 1835, carrying eleven hogsheads of tobacco, or a net weight of ten thousand pounds. As to speed over the new roads, ten miles an hour was considered ordinary. The old way-bills which the drivers received were often inscribed, "Make this time or we will find someone who will." Competition in stage line travel was always at fever heat and the rival drivers had their amusements. They were a jolly set of drivers on the "Old National Road," great lumbering fellows, yet active as panthers. They "jollied" one another with all sorts of pleasantries, and even the advertisements of the competing lines dropped into humor. Couplets were often conjured up containing some brief story of defeat with a cutting sting for the vanquished driver:

> "If you take a seat in Stockton's line
> You're sure to be passed by Pete Bodine."
>
> "Said Billy Willis to Pete Bodine:
> You'd better wait for the oyster line."

These witticisms were always taken in good spirits and were often posted in the taverns, where they caused all manner of amusement.

Fares in the old passenger coaches were not considered extortionate. Two dollars were charged from Columbus to Springfield, and intermediate points five cents per mile. Mails were carried over the National Road. It took three days and sixteen hours to get the mail from Washington to Columbus, which fact provokes a smile nowadays when the "mail flyers" annihilate distance and deliver a letter at our doors almost before the ink is dry.

The first old taverns that dotted the road were built of logs, but these, later, gave way to more pretentious ones of wood and stone, with commodious wagon yards and sheds for horses and cattle. They had the most pretentious names, such as "Temple of Juno," "The Sign of the Green Tree," "The Lion and the Eagle," and so on. The signs that swung at the doors creaked in the wind and were often elaborately decorated by the backwoods artist.

"Billy Werden's Tavern," in Springfield, was well known to the early settlers of this county. There were hilarious times in the celebrated taverns of the National Road, buildings which long ago crumbled away as the traffic of the thoroughfare sought other channels. Whiskey cost a "Flippenny bit" at the old bars and there was no adulteration, as nowadays. In some of the best taverns mulled wine, toddy and cider were dispensed.

Such, in outline, was this famous thoroughfare of early times. First came the buffalo trail, then the Indian paths, to be followed by the National Road, and later by our splendid system of turnpikes, steam and electric lines. Over the National Road passed some of the most distinguished men our country has ever produced—Jackson, Monroe, Polk, Harrison, Tyler, Clay, Benton and Lafayette. The old stages are things of the past, and such practiced drivers at Jim Reynolds, Billy Armour, and Davy Gordon have been gathered to their fathers, but the famous pike, though shorn of its pristine glory, still exists, and to-day the farmers of Miami County haul their grain to market over the same thoroughfare which in its day was considered, as indeed it was, one of the wonders of the United States. The forests and sparse clearings that fringed its line have become fertile farms or teeming cities. In many places its eighty feet of road bed has been encroached upon by property owners.

An act passed by the Ohio Legislature in 1870 cites that "the proper limits of the road are hereby defined to be a space of eighty feet in width, forty feet on each side of the center of the graded roadway." Notwithstanding this, in some places ten feet of the ground of the National Road has been included within the fences, but since the State does not, or can not, show quit claim deeds for the land, the present holders are not molested.

For years prior to the opening of the National Road, freighting on the Miami was a source of considerable income to many of our people, and became quite an industry. The river was navigable both above and below Dayton during the greater part of the year for keel boats—which were built like canal boats, only slighter and sharper—as well as for flat boats, till about 1820. These boats were often loaded with produce taken in exchange for goods, work, or even for lots and houses; for business men, instead of having money to deposit, or invest, were frequently obliged to send cargoes received in place of cash south or north for sale. Cherry and walnut logs were frequently sent down the Miami on flat boats. The trip to New Orleans was frequently made and the boat was sold in that city, its owner returning on horseback.

As early as 1819, Fielding Loury conceived the idea of opening up a river trade with the southern cities. Loury was one

MIAMI RIVER, TROY

LOOKING NORTH ON HIGH STREET, COVINGTON

M. E. CHURCH AND PARSONAGE, COVINGTON

GREENVILLE CREEK FALLS, NEAR COVINGTON

of the first settlers of the county. Eager to put his plans into effect, he loaded three boats with desirable cargoes for the times. One of these boats was commanded by Capt. Gahagan, a well known citizen of early Troy. It was then a long and perilous voyage to New Orleans. There were dangers by river and not a few by land. Some distance below Troy was a place called the "Ninety-nine Islands" where the flat boats were likely to ground. Ill luck would have it that Capt. Gahagan's boat should meet with just such a fate at this spot. When Gahagan was in these straits, the second boat, commanded by Capt. Hunter (it was great to be a boat captain those days), came along, and in trying to avoid the first boat, ran into her, inflicting such damage that she sank quickly, with all her cargo. One can imagine the exciting scene thus witnessed by the two captains. Capt. Hamlet's boat, the third one, safely landed. The screams of the women on the first boat and the emphatic language of the men made up a perfect Bedlam, but all were rescued, though much of the cargo was lost. It took three days to save that part of the loads taken out, and the whole, thoroughly drenched, had to be spread out on the floors of neighboring barns to dry.

Captain Gahagan's unlucky boat was repaired, after which the voyage was resumed. On one of the boats was Mrs. Loury, wife of the owner of the cargoes, with her two young daughters. The voyage was painfully slow. When the little Miami fleet floated into the broad waters of the Mississippi, Mrs. Loury was taken sick and, despite the care of her companions, died. The scene was an unusually sad one. Far from home, in the midst of a region comparatively unknown and amid strangers, the little Loury girls were bereft of a good mother and were obliged to see her buried in a rude coffin on the bank of the great river. Loury's trading adventure proved disastrous, for not only had it cost him his wife, but the cargo was spoiled by the accident in the Miami and he found himself practically a bankrupt. For six months he did not learn of the death of his wife.

The late G. Volney Dorsey, of Piqua, has left on record some interesting notes of flat-boating on the Miami, from which I make a few extracts:

"After the development of the country about Piqua," says Dr. Dorsey, "when exportation became a necessity in order to get the sight of a little money, flat boats were constructed and loaded with flour, bacon, corn in the ear, cherry lumber, furniture and other products. The boats were built at Piqua on the bank of the Miami River, with two parallel gunwales, from sixty to seventy feet in length, and the boat about twelve feet wide. They were built bottom side up, the plank in the bottom running crosswise and spiked to the gunwales, with the ends imbedded in a rabbet, cut to the gunwales deeper than the thickness of the boards, so as to secure the bottom from catching when floating over shoal places.

"Some of the men engaged in this river commerce were Joseph Bennett, a cabinet maker, and one Tinkham, of the same trade, who would ship by this means bedsteads in large quantities, and coast along the Mississippi, retailing out to people along the river whatever was in demand. The risk in navigating the Miami required great skill and presence of mind, especially in passing over mill dams and following the channel of the river through the 'Ninety-nine Islands,' as they were called, located a few miles below Troy. The pilot of notoriety was Robert Logan, a very large man, and when in command of one of these boats about to start on its journey, and standing upon the deck disciplining his boatmen to use the oars, he was looked upon with as much consideration as the greatest admiral who ever commanded a fleet. To see one of these boats pass through the channel of the river at these islands was indeed a most thrilling sight and it required the most consummate skill and quickness of action to wind the unwieldy craft through its tortuous route to a safe passage. After passing into the Ohio, the pilot and other men not wanted to coast were discharged.

"Along the banks of the Mississippi are frequently found eddies, or whirlpools, into which the boat is liable to be drawn, and when once fairly in the circuit it was difficult to cross the circuit and reach the straight current. An anecdote is told of one of these early eddies in the Mississippi. On one occasion a green hand was called to watch in the darkness of the night, and shortly after taking his position on deck the boat, without his observation, was drawn into one of these eddies, opposite to which, on the bank of the river stood a brick church, and the boat continued making a circuit during the whole of his watch. When his turn was up he awoke the man to take his place on deck, and upon being asked how he got along, replied, 'First rate, but it is the darndest place for brick churches I ever saw in my life.'

"In connection with this history of flatboating," our narrator continues, "it was common for boatmen returning from New Orleans to walk all the way home, passing through the wilderness north of that place and through what was called the Indian Nations, Chactaws and Chickasaws. Jacob Landis and David Hunter, both of whom died at Piqua after a long residence, made this journey on foot. Another fact in connection with this primitive commerce was the building of a large keel-boat by John Chatham on the public square in Piqua, directly west of Orr & Leonard's warehouse. This boat was built (the hull) and hauled to St. Mary's, the bow resting on the wheels of a wagon, and the stern on sled runners, with eight horses, two teams belonging to James Johnston and John Campbell. It was launched in the St. Mary's River and was used on that stream to freight to Fort Wayne and on the Maumee River. It was about eight feet wide by fifty-five or sixty feet in length."

Flat-boating on the Miami continued for some years. It was attended with a good many risks, but there were those who were willing to take them for the profits promised by the ventures. The journey to New Orleans was considered a long one, as indeed it was, and the return trip oftentimes afoot was not without its perils. As the county opened up and other methods of transportation came into vogue, flatboating was abandoned and eventually disappeared. It was superseded by the canal. It is not generally known that George Washington was among the first to advocate canal building. He conceived the idea of linking the Ohio with the Potomac by a canal, and for this he received the thanks of the Virginia House of Burgesses.

The famous Erie Canal, upon which the initiatory work was begun in 1819, was the predecessor of the canal which runs through Miami County. It was opened through to the lake in 1825. During the period of settlement in the Northwest, roads, such as we know them now, were quite as little known to the widely separated communities in Ohio as were railroads. With very few exceptions the roads were only widened bridle paths, improved in swampy places by patches of corduroy construction, but well nigh impassable in the spring and fall. Thus, in the absence of roads, overland transportation for trade was impracticable and productions of any kind were of no value so long as they could not be shipped cheaply to the consumer by water. The need of cheaper communication was keenly realized from the time of the first settlements west of the great barrier, the Alleghanies, and most keenly by those situated some distance from any river or stream, and thus cut off from the usual modes of transportation by canoe, flatboat, "keel-boat," or "ark."

The beginning of canal agitation in Ohio, which culminated in the building of the artificial waterway through the county, was contemporaneous with that in New York state. In 1817 the first resolution relating to Ohio canals was introduced into the State Assembly, and the friends of the project entered actively into the fall campaign to elect men pledged to vote for internal improvements, and not without success. Governor Brown in 1818 referred in his inaugural address to the necessity of providing cheaper ways to the market for the Ohio farmers.

As the years went by interest in the canals increased. In 1830 the question was debated in Congress when that body was asked to grant government lands in Ohio for canal purposes. Not all the states could view this internal improvement in Ohio as one of national interest. In the "great debate" of that year the Senate discussed the value of a canal in Ohio to the nation. Webster in his famous reply to Hayne declared "this very question, What interest has South Carolina in a canal in Ohio? is full of significance." This discussion took place nineteen months after Congress had granted the lands to aid the Ohio and Indiana canals, a fact which shows the continued interest of the nation.

In 1831 the Miami and Erie Canal was completed to Dayton, which place remained as the head of navigation six years, when the canal was completed to Piqua. This afforded cheap transportation to Cincinnati. It was found to be the very thing the people needed and they were not slow to take advantage of it. The cost of the Miami and Erie Canal—250 miles, and 32 miles of feeders—was $6,762,458.00—a large sum—but the benefits arising from this waterway have been incalculable.

It was not until after the completion of the reservoirs or feeders that the canal entered upon the era of its greatest prosperity. For many years it was the means of transportation and travel. At every lock there was always a string of boats above and below, patiently waiting their turns to reach the other level. The sonorous and far reaching blast of the boat horns and the "Lo-o-ow bridge" calls echoed continually from the river to the lake. Hundreds of sixty- and eighty-ton boats plied up and down between all points, while regular passenger packets, accommodating forty to sixty passengers, connected with the stage and steamboat lines. Not being affected by the bad roads, bad weather or breakdowns of the old stage, nor by the wind, high or low water of the steamboats, the canal packets were seldom delayed.

The packets which at the time of their greatest popularity were much used by the people, are often described as the Pullman cars of the 50's. They bore more resemblance to the limited train, as each packet was "diner," "sleeper," "smoker," "parlor car," "baggage" and "mail coach" combined. They created a good deal of excitement in the adjacent country as they passed up and down the canal. The worth of the canal was soon apparent to everyone. Shortly after it was put in operation wheat advanced in price. Firearms, cloth, shoes, coffee, tea, chocolate, rum, salt, gypsum and sugar came south from the lake ports, while wheat, corn, flour, butter, beef, cheese, tobacco, and whiskey found their way more easily to the eastern markets. In 1829 merchandise was brought from New York City to Dayton by the all-water route of 1,100 miles in twenty days at a cost of $17.25 per ton. The route followed the Erie Canal to Buffalo, the lake to Cleveland, the Ohio Canal to Portsmouth, the Ohio River to Cincinnati, and the Miami Canal to Dayton. The "Canal Counties" at once took the lead in industrial and agricultural growth, a lead they never lost, as today these thirty of the eighty-eight counties contain fifty-two per cent of the state's population.

The speed of the canal packets was never great. They seldom exceeded a four mile per hour schedule. Leaving Piqua at 8 a. m. they would reach Cincinnati the following morning in time for breakfast. This was considered a wonderful feat in those days. The captain of a packet was considered a person of distinction. His word was law on his boat and passengers who became familiar with him were called "lucky fellows." The *menus* of these boats was something worth discussing in a gastronomic sense, for the tables were supplied with the fat of the land and the meals were enjoyed to the full.

In 1844 the Miami and Erie Canal was opened to the lake for business and this gave a new impetus to commercial enterprise in the county. Piqua then had nearly five thousand inhabitants and Troy was no inconsiderable place. The county owes much to Messrs. Stephen Johnston, W. J. Jackson and J. F. McKinney, of Piqua, who as a committee contended with the unfriendly legislation aimed at the canal and who in a great measure were instrumental in securing its successful operation. Piqua was at the head of navigation from 1837 to 1845, which gave it great impetus. It was intended originally to take a feeder out of Bosson's dam above town (Troy), but that failed, the Messrs. Bosson demanding more for the privilege than the commissioners would give, and by that failure the head of navigation was transferred from Troy to Piqua, a circumstance fatal to the prosperity of Troy and a godsend to her northern rival.

The transportation of the mails in the early days of Miami County was poor and primitive. When one considers the mail service of the present day, the fast mail trains, the free rural delivery, the commodious post offices and other mail facilities enjoyed by the people, the mere mention of the old mail service provokes a smile.

There was but little correspondence before the introduction of steam, and letters were few and far between. It required days to get a letter to a friend in another state and then there was a long wait for the answer. Postage stamps had not come into use, but the amount of postage due was written on the outside of the letter. Envelopes then were unknown, nor had the day arrived for the sweetly-scented *billet doux* and the delicate linen paper. Steel pens had not yet come from the inventive brain of a Gillot and the old-fashioned quill held sway. Nearly all the social letters began, "I take my pen in hand to inform you that we are all well and to hope that you are enjoying the same blessing,"—a style which is still extant in some parts of the Union and among certain classes.

When the writer of a letter had finished his task the sheet was simply folded and addressed on the blank page. This done a stick of red sealing wax was held over the flame of a candle and a bit of the heated substance dropped upon the fold and allowed to cool. Now and then the writer, if she were a young lady, would stamp the impression of her ring on the wax, if she possessed one, and the letter was ready for the post. Mucilage then was unknown. I have seen a number of these old letters, the ink of which is as dark as the day when it flowed from the nib of the quill.

In 1816 the rates of postage were fixed as follows: Thirty-six miles, six cents; eighty miles, ten cents; over one hundred and fifty miles, eighteen and three-fourths cents; over five hundred miles, twenty-five cents. The blowing of a horn announced to the people of the neighborhood the arrival of the mail, which was carried horseback. The mail bag was never filled to overflowing and the few recipients of its contents were indeed the lucky ones.

Not until 1811 was a post office established at Piqua and then the weekly post-route was extended from Dayton.

In a copy of the *Miami Reporter* published at Troy in 1828 I find the following advertisement of the postmaster:

MAILS.

The mail arrives from Dayton by the direct route on Tuesday and returns on Friday. It arrives from Dayton by Milton on Saturday and returns on Monday.

The mail also arrives from Columbus by Urbana and Piqua on Saturday morning and passes directly on to Columbus and Urbana.

It arrives from New Carlisle on Tuesday morning and returns on Wednesday morning.

LEVI HART, P. M.

Now and then one of these old time postmasters trusted his patrons, sometimes, no doubt, to his own sorrow, and he was called upon to nag them up a little by inserting in the newspapers a "call to delinquents," which read something like this:

"The postmaster, having been in the habit of giving unlimited credit heretofore, finds it his duty to adhere strictly to the instructions of the postmaster general. He hopes, therefore, that his friends will not take it amiss when he assures them that no distinction will be made. No letters will be delivered in future without pay, nor papers without the postage being paid quarterly in advance."

Now that postage for all distances is equal and very low—we can now send a letter to the Philippines for two cents—we can hardly realize the burden and inconvenience the high and uncertain postage rates imposed upon the pioneers. Money was very scarce and difficult to obtain; and to pay twenty-five cents in cash for a letter was no easy matter and worked a hardship on the writer.

Nor was the transmission of the early mails, no matter how they were carried, conducted in safety. The mail robber was abroad in the land then as now. Some of the mails brought to this country seventy-five years ago came by post riders to Wheeling, and thence down the river to Cincinnati in mail boats, built like whaling craft, each manned with four oarsmen and a coxswain, who were often armed, thence by postroads to the Miami region. The voyage from Wheeling to Cincinnati occupied six days and the return trip up stream in twelve days.

The early post offices of the county were generally log structures, but they answered the needs of the times well enough. The postmaster was frequently merchant, cabinet-maker and government official all in one. His salary was not large and he never retired with a competence. Old records in the Postoffice Department show that he was never a defaulter and he always squared up with the Government to a penny. When there were floods or heavy snows the mails were delayed and the patrons of the office waited till the toot of the postman's horn announced that he had overcome the obstructions.

A story is told of one of the early mail routes in the county,which will bear repeating to show the dangers that beset the mail carrier of nearly a century ago. This carrier, one of the very first who brought the mails into this locality, was riding through a belt of timber when he heard a wild cry which seemed to chill his blood. Looking up he espied a female wild cat squatted on a limb with blazing eyes and vicious mien. His horse seemed paralyzed with terror and appeared to have lost his senses for the moment. Before the horrified postman could collect himself, the ferocious animal leaped downward upon him, landing squarely upon his shoulders and burying tooth and claw in his flesh. At this moment the horse plunged forward, carrying his double burden away at breakneck speed, snorting out his terror at every bound. In vain for a time did the post rider attempt to relieve himself of his determined foe. The wild cat clung to her victim with the tenacity of death, biting deeper and deeper all the time, while the unfortunate man was in constant agony.

At last, in passing under a limb, the rider ducked and the bough loosened the grip of the ferocious beast, tearing her loose and throwing her to the ground stunned. As soon as the man could check the speed of his horse he hastened back and with a heavy stick belabored the wild cat till life was extinct, then, half faint from loss of blood, the carrier threw the carcass over the saddle before him and resumed his journey. When he reached the postoffice he fell from his saddle unconscious, and the old postmaster, adjusting his spectacles, picked the wildcat up with the remark: "I guess there is no postage due on this package."

I have tried to give in this chapter a brief account of early transportation within the limits of the county. The reader can compare it with the splendid facilities we have today. In looking down the vistas of a century, back through the mists of the past, we can observe our progress and wonder at it. The glories of the National Road have faded before the steam and electric lines that belt the county, and in the shadow of the handsome and commodious post offices that dot the county today we can, with little stretch of the imagination, see the log ones which received and distributed the primitive mails. Then the people trudged miles to send and receive their scanty mails, but now well-dressed servants of the government deliver the mails at their very doors, no matter how isolated they are, and the daily newspaper is one of the burdens of the faithful "rural router."

From the old letter with its waxen seal we have advanced to the convenient stamp and the fashionable letter paper, and the postmaster no longer calls upon his patrons to settle for little accommodations of trust. If some of the old keel boats that cut the limpid waters of the Miami could be resurrected they would become the greatest curiosities imaginable and the calls of the ancient boatmen would make unique records for the modern phonograph. One must remember that within the space of one hundred years this country has developed from the primitive into the modern stage of its existence, making a progress that is little short of the marvelous.

For instance, when Cornelius Westfall, who kept the first Troy post office when much of this country was a howling wilderness, and when, in 1811, Arthur Brandon received from President Madison his commission as postmaster at Piqua, little was thought of the future of our great commonwealth. Yet from these early experiences in transportation sprang the civilization now enjoyed by the country, though, as has been said, it is difficult to realize the advance that has been made. It has been remarked that if the old pioneer could revisit the scenes of his abode he would be as much astonished at the progress of the country as are its citizens of the present day.

CHAPTER VI.

THE TOWNSHIPS (WESTERN)

Washington, Concord, Monroe, Union, Newton and Newberry Townships; Their Boundaries and History—Early Settlers—Heroes of the Revolution and War of 1812—Development of Natural Resources—First Mills, Founding of the Villages; Tippecanoe, Etc.

Before giving in detail an account of Troy and Piqua, which are the largest municipalities of the county, I shall devote two chapters to the history of the townships and the towns which are found within their limits. Prior to 1807 the county comprised but two townships. The division west of the Miami was called Randolph Township, while the eastern section was named Elizabeth. The genesis of these titles as applied to the divisions is obscure and not traceable. Randolph Township being too large, was not permitted to retain its name very long. In fact it disappeared within a year and the territory therein embraced was divided into more townships. In the same manner, that portion of the county which had been given the general name of Elizabeth, was divided until the six townships lying east of the river had been formed.

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP.

Washington Township, though the smallest in area, is the most populous division of the county. It is named for General Washington and justly so since to the "first great American" we owe much concerning the opening of the Miami country. The boundaries of Washington Township are as follows: On the north by Shelby County, on the east by Springcreek and Staunton Townships, on the south by Concord and Newton and on the west by Newberry. To Washington Township belongs the credit of some of the first settlements in the state. It was the home of some of the Indian tribes so closely identified with the history of the county and it witnessed not a few stirring events in early history. It has aptly been said that "here was the last home of the red man in the county and here the earliest white settlements." From the Indian cantons in Washington Township, the Indian forayed into Kentucky and when loaded with the spoil of his depredations, he returned to the banks of the Miami and at Piqua told to attentive listeners around the forest fires the story of the bloody raid.

The county had been a legally organized commonwealth about seven years before

Washington Township came into existence. Prior to this time (1814) several settlements had been made within its present limits. One Job Gard, who had been a soldier in Wayne's army, taking note of this particular region when the army passed north to punish the Indians on the Maumee in 1794, returned after the campaign and built for himself a cabin out of timber which had been used in the construction of old Fort Piqua. Gard's settlement is supposed to have been an event of 1798. This first pioneer of Washington Township remained in his habitation for three years when he sold out to John Manning, a man closely identified with the early history of the county. From this date the tide of settlement in the northern portion of the county can easily be traced. The cabins of the settlers, hitherto far apart, were to be found in little groups which formed a protection from the Indians and stimulated neighborly intercourse. The needs of the little colony in Washington Township increased. Hand mills for the grinding of corn were erected, but these failing to sufficiently provide for the wants of the community, regular mills came into use, and in 1804 Manning erected one near what is now the south end of Harrison Street in Piqua. It was the first real mill in that section of the county.

With the organization of the township the first trustees were elected. They were John Widney, Benjamin Brandon, and William Mitchell. The Mitchells came from Tennessee and were hardy, honest and enterprising people. It is noticeable that many of the first settlers of the county came from the Southern states. This fact may be traced to the Boones and others who had penetrated to this region years before to carry back to their friends flattering reports of the fertile valleys which lay north of the Ohio, a veritable "land of promise." It is somewhat remarkable that but little is known of the actual settlement of Washington Township outside of the City of Piqua. One of the first inhabitants of the township was the celebrated Col. John Johnston, the Indian agent. Others were James and Frank Johnston, Hugh Scott, Benjamin Leavell, John and Enos Manning, Armstrong Brandon, and Matthew Caldwell. Another well known character was Joseph Porquette, who kept about the first liquor store in the county.

The late Dr. Dorsey, in his reminiscences, has this to say of Porquette, who, from his name, was evidently French: "At that time there was quite a broad strip of land between the east side of the street in Piqua and the west end of the river bridge. This was claimed by Porquette. Ewing, a local trader, kept a tavern, in which he had a few articles of traffic which he sometimes exchanged with the Indians for skins and furs. As the village grew, the consumption of liquor naturally increased, and Porquette kept some whiskey on his side of the street, which was not a little frequented from the fact that the first blacksmith shop stood hard by, and hence it happened that occasionally little disturbances arose in this vicinity, somewhat to the disgust of the good and sober people in the other houses. As the numbers year by year increased and these outbreaks became more marked and frequent, Porquette's little piece of ground was at length called by the distinctive appellation of the 'Devil's Half-acre,' that it might be known that it was believed that this was all the territory to which it was believed His Satanic Maj-esty could rightfully lay claim within this locality. This name continued for many years, and it was only after the larger portion of the ground was buried in the canal and the evil spirit properly laid beneath its waters that the name was lost and is now only remembered by a few of the old inhabitants.''

Much of the improved land in Washington Township today was cultivated by the Indians in corn. It was this fact which induced George Rogers Clark to invade this particular locality in 1782 when, as has already been narrated in this work, he devastated these fields, laying them waste and depriving the red men of their sustenance. The Indian corn fields stretched along the bank of the Miami in Washington Township and were cultivated by the women of the various tribes. When the whites came they found some of these fields in a fair state of cultivation, but the Indian method was very primitive. The pioneers of Washington Township at once improved on the Indian's work and before long their own fields were the wonder of the early days. As the village of Piqua grew in importance a little market for grain was established and later on the boating industry enabled the settlers to reach the outside world which lay beyond the forests of the Miami.

No other township in the county furnished a sturdier group of settlers than Washington. They came of a hardy race, immigrants from beyond the barriers of the Alleghanies, men who made that long journey alone, looking for the new land of which they had heard and longed to possess. If the docket of Mathew Caldwell, who was the first justice of the peace of Washington Township, could be unearthed, its few entries would show how peaceably its first inhabitants got along together. There was little litigation and nearly all the cases that came up before Justice Caldwell were settled by the advice of friends or of the Justice himself. In short the neighborhood was not disturbed by quarrels, and it was not until Piqua became a large town that the dockets assumed visible proportions. Since it is designed to give the history of Piqua in a separate chapter we will turn our attention to another township.

CONCORD TOWNSHIP.

The organization of Concord Township is contemporaneous with the formation of the county. It is located centrally, being bounded on the north by Washington, on the east by the Miami, on the South by Monroe and on the west by Newton. Its name means ''peace,'' though at various times since its promotion and during political years it has swung away from that appellation. It does not contain much Indian history, as no Indian villages seem to have been built within its borders. Among the first whites to settle in Concord Township were: Aron Tullis, William Barbee, Reuben Shackelford and Alexander Telford. These came about 1804. In 1806 came John Peck from Kentucky with four sons, Jacob, John, Joseph and Isaac and four daughters. This family located on the Boone place south of Troy. Peck arrived in the winter season and paid $100 for 160 acres of excellent land, only one acre of which was cleared. His little cabin of simple construction contained but one room, 16x18, and this housed the entire family. Peck drove all his cattle through the wilderness from Kentucky, guarding them by day and by night from Indians and wild beasts. It was a long and perilous journey, but the pioneer was undaunted and was at least rewarded for his trouble by finding a home near the waters of the Miami. In the second year of his residence in Concord Township all his stock died save one mare, three cows and a few sheep, and with this remnant he was compelled to begin life anew. It was a gigantic task which confronted John Peck and his family, but all went to work with a will and before long found themselves well situated with all the losses recovered and good prospects ahead.

In 1805 Abraham Thomas joined the little colony in Concord Township. Thomas had had some experience in war, as he had been a soldier in the Revolution, and an enlisted man in both of Clark's expeditions against the Indians in the Miami country. Like Mr. Peck, he made the journey from Kentucky with his family, consisting of his wife and four children. The emigrants reached the Staunton settlement, where they remained for a few hours, then forded the Miami at the "broad ford" as it is yet called. From the river bank Thomas and his sons were obliged to cut a road through the forest to their farm not far south of Troy. On this piece of land these pioneers first cut the brush out and built what was called a "camp." This was not the comfortable cabin, a few of which may still be found standing at the present day. It was a structure still more modest in its pretensions. Instead of logs, the sides were hastily built up with poles, the cracks between them were stuffed with moss and the roof and floor were made of bark. The front side of the structure was left entirely open and a huge fire built in front of it. Here there were no troubles with rats in the cellar, cats in the garret, smoky chimneys, slamming doors or lack of ventilation. The good housewife cooked her bear-meat, venison and wild turkey at her primitive range and spread a board which epicures might envy. The family lived in such a camp for a few weeks until a more substantial log cabin could be completed. The cracks of this were chinked with mud and daubed with mud and a door and chimney were not forgotten. One little aristocratic feature of the new structure will readily be forgotten nowadays—four panes of real glass were used in the windows instead of greased paper.

When the cabin, one of the first erected in Concord Township was finished, Pioneer Thomas and his sturdy sons went into the woods, which soon resounded with the sound of their axes. The first task was the planting of an orchard, trees for which they had thoughtfully brought from Kentucky. In time these trees bore luscious pipins, and but few years have elapsed since the last of these pioneer orchards disappeared.

Across the river from the Staunton settlement lay what was known as the Gahagan Prairie. Mr. Thomas rented ten acres of this rich bottom land, which he planted with the necessaries of life, while he and his sons cleared the homestead. On this farm Mr. Thomas passed the remaining years of his life, dying in 1843, and was buried by the famous LaFayette Blues, a Troy military organization commanded by Lieutenant Pettit. Abram Thomas is a fair sample of the early pioneers of the county. It is said of him that his character was unimpeachable, that he possessed a daring spirit, and being of a robust and hardy constitution, he was often detailed for the most important and hazardous service in time of war. He took part in the Revolutionary War and in many a hard fought Indian skirmish before and since that period.

Among the other early settlers of Concord Township were Foust, McGimpsey and Steward. These settled near the Peck place, and in 1807 the small colony was increased by the addition of David Jenkins, of South Carolina, and James Knight of Pennsylvania. The Concord colony was increasing. Gahagan's Prairie was giving forth crops that cheered the heart of the pioneer and made him satisfied with his change. In fact this tract, having once been "farmed" by the Indians, was easily induced to yield to the industry of the settler. Such was the fertility of this ground that the first year with its primitive utensils Mr. Peck got forty-one bushels of corn to the acre. Through the woods of Concord, over the winding trails, the settlers went to mill on horseback. No wagons were theirs. Up to about 1814 only two wagons were to be found in this whole region and they were not accessible for use.

While the Pecks and Thomases were the first pioneers to break ground in Concord Township, there were others who were contemporaneous with them. There were James Orr, James Youart, A. McCullough, James Marshall, John Johnson, Henry Orbison and Joseph McCorkle. The majority of these men came from Kentucky, which section sent into Miami County some of its foremost citizens. When one looks back over the history of Concord Township, much of which belongs to the history of Troy which is to be related hereafter, he must give unbounded credit to the men who overcame the difficulties of the wilderness and brought order out of chaos. Let us consider for a moment a few items plucked at random from the early chapters of this township.

Soon after the first settling of the township came the war of 1812 with its attendant Indian horrors. The panic which grew out of the threatened danger spread along the Miami and for a season paralyzed the pioneer settlements of Concord. They were believed to be in the shadow of the tomahawk, but fortunately the danger passed and peace once more hovered over the Miami frontier, guarding it as a mother guards her young; the tide of immigration, halted by the war, revived and returned to its former sweep.

The progressive agriculture of the present day as seen in Concord Township was in its infancy a century ago. There was scarcely any market, not even for the small amount of grain raised by the settlers. Teams were almost unknown, fences had not come into vogue, and mills were few and far between. It did not require much corn to fatten hogs, as the woods furnished them with sustenance. Owing to a scarcity of fences all cattle were belled and hogs marked. The only market was across the river at Staunton and the produce, which consisted mainly of butter and eggs, was taken thither. Groceries were confined to those of the most simple description and the pioneers of Concord Township were often put to their ingenuity to supply their wants. Sugar was made from sap of the maple tree, sage and sassafras took the place of "Oolong," and browned rye was a substitute for coffee. Doctors had not invaded the neighborhood and home-made medicines, tansy and pennyroyal, were the "cure alls" of that day.

SOUTH PLUM STREET, TROY

MAIN STREET, TIPPECANOE CITY

CHRISTIAN CHURCH, COVINGTON

SITE OF FIRST FORT AND OF FIRST BIRTH IN MIAMI COUNTY (STAUNTON TOWNSHIP)

RESIDENCE OF W. P. ORR, PIQUA

RESIDENCE OF L. M. FLESH, PIQUA

The harvests were cut in the simplest manner with the sickle. Corn huskings, which were great and jolly affairs, came into vogue in Concord as they did in other parts of the country. They put the corn in piles, with a rail in the center. Then two members of the party were selected to "choose up" and the huskers were chosen. At a given signal all hands went to work and amid much merriment the work was completed. This was but one of the recreations of the first settlers of Concord Township. Everything was cheap then but the clothing which the pioneers were forced to buy.

Fine shirts were not known, because muslin was too high—75 cents per yard. The housewife spun for the family and linsey-woolsey dresses were the first seen in Troy. The Concord pioneers cut cordwood and got it into Troy, where it brought thirty-seven and one-half cents per cord, which he could exchange for half a yard of muslin. Corn brought eight cents a bushel, wheat seldom more than twenty-five and oats six and one-fourth cents. The farmer of today will smile at these prices, but they were considered "pretty fair" by the men who broke ground here one hundred years ago.

The history of Troy will form a chapter by itself, hence nothing more concerning Concord Township need be written here. It is today one of the foremost of the twelve divisions of the county. It is richly supplied with turnpikes which enter Troy from every part of the county and steam and electric roads add to its wealth. Troy is the only incorporated town within the limits of Concord Township. Eldean is a hamlet on the Troy-Piqua turnpike and the D. & T. electric car-line, about two miles north of Troy.

MONROE TOWNSHIP.

The most interest seems to cluster about the early or pioneer history of any place. This is not only true of nations, but of smaller commonwealths, towns and cities. The coming of the first settlers has a charm which later history cannot take away. There is something in the early migrations to this county that is still unexplained. Several townships, notably those in the Stillwater region, were largely settled by people from the far south, from North and South Carolina. Why they selected one part of the county and not the other is still a mystery. Monroe Township was settled to a great extent by people from that section of the Union. Monroe is found in the southern tier of townships, bounded on the north by Concord, on the South by Montgomery County, on the west by Union Township, while the Miami separates it from Bethel and Elizabeth, which stretch away to the east. Its first settlers came from South Carolina and when they reached the fertile lands of Monroe they found the Indians in possession, living in the primitive villages that sheltered the red tribes of the forest.

Samuel Freeman seems to have been the first white man to break ground in Monroe, which he did in 1801. His habitation was the beginning of house building in the township. From North Carolina in 1802 came John Yount, who entered a choice piece of land at $2 per acre. Next came Michael Fair, who emigrated from Frederick County, Maryland, the home of Barbara Freitchie, and he was followed a little later on by John Clark, also of Maryland.

The Clarks were of good stock, sturdy and industrious, and produced a long line of descendants as notable as themselves. David Jenkins left his South Carolina home to begin a new life among the woods of Monroe and with him came Elisha Jones, another son of the Palmetto State. Jenkins being a man of some culture, filled various township offices, all of which he discharged faithfully, winning the respect of his neighbors.

Among the other pioneers of Monroe are to be found Thomas Pearson, his three sons Enoch, Jonas and Thomas, Jr., Samuel Pearson, John Jay, Paul Macey, George North, George Kerr, the Laytons, Ferguses, Westlakes, Puterbaughs, Shafers, Furnaces, and a number of others whose name at this late day are not obtainable. The Maceys were from Tennessee, the Norths from Georgia and the Kerrs from Virginia. All these hardy pioneers brought families with them, and these increasing as the years went by, populated Monroe Township with an excellent class of citizens.

In Monroe the settlers found land to their liking. Many settled on Freeman's Prairie, which was situated southeast of Tippecanoe City and opposite the mouth of Honeycreek on the west side of the Miami. The mills to which the pioneers had access were few and far between. They were very primitive as compared with the mills of the present day. Dr. Asa Coleman in his reminiscences describes one of these mills as follows: "These early erected mills were quite primitive in their structure and material. The mill-stones were generally manufactured in the county, often in the immediate vicinity of the site where they were to be used, of single stones worked out of the large boulders which are to be found on the surface in various parts of the county. Very little iron except the spindle gudgeons and a few bands were used, wood being exclusively used for all other purposes; iron being too expensive and difficult to obtain. These mills from these circumstances were very simple structures, calculated principally for the grinding of corn. The first grinding of wheat for flour was very imperfectly done. In some at first the bolt was turned by hand, a somewhat laborious operation, but wheat bread being a rarity the labor was willingly performed. At the time of the organization of the county there were six or seven of these milling establishments in operation. There were Mordecai Mendenhall's on Honeycreek, Henry Gerard's on Springcreek, John Freeman's and John Manning's on the Miami, Moses Coate's on Ludlow Creek, Mast's, Weddle's and Empre's on Stillwater." A number of these sawmills sawed lumber for the first frame houses erected in Monroe Township.

Tippecanoe City, the principal town in Monroe, dates its incorporative origin in the year 1840. It was named for "Tippecanoe," the sobriquet given President W. H. H. Harrison for his defeat of the Indians at the battle of Tippecanoe in 1811. It lies in the eastern part of the township, its northeastern boundary being formed by the Miami River. For some years Tippecanoe City had no market facilities, but the building of the Miami and Erie Canal supplied this want and later the shipping facilities were further increased by the Dayton & Michigan Railroad and the D. & T. traction line. Tippecanoe City's first post office was called Hyattsville and

Henry J. Hyatt was the first postmaster. Hyatt lived in a log cabin, where he was merchant, tailor and postmaster all in one.

It is said that a division of sentiment prevailed over the naming of Tippecanoe City. A Mr. Jay, who purchased the first lot, wanted the place to bear the appellation of Jaytown, while Mr. Clark wanted it called Sharpsburg after his home in Maryland, but the present name was selected and the discussion ended. The first tavern in the now prosperous town was built by Thomas Krise, who for some years furnished entertainment for man and beast, and he is said to have been an enterprising landlord.

From the very first Tippecanoe City seemed to prosper, owing to the energy of its inhabitants, until now it has a population of almost 1,800. Its first official roster is as follows: Mayor—Levi N. Booker; recorder—E. F. Shields; marshal—Eli Snell; treasurer—I. L. Wilcox; councilmen—Thomas Jay, Michael Shellabarger, Henry Krise. From that time to the present the mayors of Tippecanoe City have been I. K. Gilbert, H. H. McCabe, C. W. Wheeler, John Mann, E. T. Shields, T. Kibby, A. H. Wesler, Levi Jay, A. E. Kerns, Ellis H. Kerr, W. G. Fritz, L. A. Sheets, S. E. Smith, B. B. Scarff, G. J. Smith, R. N. Eyler. Messrs. Shields, Wesler and Kerr filled the mayor's office at different times.

The present city officers are: Mayor—R. N. Eyler; clerk—S. O. Mitchell; treasurer—J. S. Pohlman; solicitor—W. E. Lytle; marshal—C. J. Frost; councilmen—W. H. Clark, E. T. Davis, G. O. King, Will H. Long, D. W. Prill, L. L. Youart; street commissioner—S. S. Westfall; police—Crist Eickhoff, J. H. Fenner.

Tippecanoe is a noted manufacturing center, but this industry will be mentioned in a special chapter. It has two banks (see "Banks and Banking"), a fine public school, and excellent churches.

Ginghamsburg, a village of some local importance, is situated in Monroe Township, with *Fredericktown* (*Fidelity P. O.*) and *Cowlesville,* the latter a cluster of houses on the Dayton & Troy Traction line.

UNION TOWNSHIP.

In writing the history of Union Township one must go south to discover its fountain head. The tide of emigration that flowed northward from the Carolinas broke upon the shores of the Stillwater and populated Union. When that vast area lying west of the Miami and which for a time was known as Randolph Township was cut up into five smaller divisions, Union became one of these about 1807. It is bounded on the north by Newton Township, on the south by Montgomery County, on the east by Concord and Monroe Townships and on the west by Monroe Township in Darke County. It is traversed by the Stillwater in the eastern part, while two branches of Ludlow Creek and other streams water its large area.

There being no finer land "out of doors" it is no wonder that the first white men who penetrated to this region concluded to make it their home. In the year 1801 Henry Fouts and the two Ellers, Leonard and Adam, settled in Union Township in the very heart of the "forest primeval." They had looked at other land, but found the region of the Stillwater to their liking. The next year came Caleb Mendenhall, with his family of six, and he was followed by John Mast and Frederick Yount. The last named located a mill site and for a while supplied the settlers with flour and ground meal.

In 1804 David Mote, Sr., with five stalwart sons, settled in Union. They chose the western part of the township, while east of the river received Leonard and William Fincher, William Neal, Benjamin Pike, Jacob Byrkett and others. The Motes led the vanguard of Quakers who settled in Union Township, a class of people who have given to this county much of the stability and prosperity it now enjoys. These people, quiet, unobtrusive and strictly honest, are found all over Union Township, forming within themselves a class noted for its integrity. The descendants of the first Quaker residents have filled many positions of trust and are numbered today among the foremost citizens of the county.

The year 1805 found Samuel Jones in Union Township. He emigrated from Georgia, as did Abiather Davis, who brought with him to the fine lands on Stillwater four sons and three daughters. In the same year Newberry District in South Carolina sent a little colony of Quakers into the township, among whom were Isaac, James, George and Nathan Hollingsworth. Elisha Jones, a chairmaker, came in 1807, having been preceded a year previous by Joel Hollingsworth, another Quaker. Joel was a man of both ingenuity and business, for he built flatboats upon Stillwater and transported his own produce to New Orleans, making quite a little sum by the operation. It is stated that upon one return trip Mr. Hollingsworth brought home a telescope, a wonderful thing in those days. Neighbors came from far and near to inspect the wonderful instrument and for months it was the "newest thing under the sun."

One cannot help noticing the stalwartness of the first settlers of Union Township. They were men of powerful physique and people of more than the average culture and perseverance. For instance Isaac Hasket rode horseback from South Carolina, accompanied by his wife and child, and many others followed his example. He was a blacksmith whose forge was always aglow and his hands and skill turned out all sorts of farming implements, including sickles in profusion. There were no keener sickles in the Stillwater Valley than those he fashioned and the bearded grain went down before them in a marvelous manner. So rapid was the settlement of Union Township that it is asserted that two large Friends or Quaker settlements in Georgia and South Carolina were almost depopulated to furnish inhabitants in this section. The tide of immigration rolled resistless this way for several years or until Union Township was almost entirely populated with Quakers.

When the township came to organize itself into a body politic it chose Samuel B. Edwards as clerk. He was a man not calculated to make the best possible officer, but something had to be done and he was selected. He served but one term and the people seemed glad to exchange him for another elector. John Coate is said to have been the first duly elected clerk.

Settled as it was by people of decided worth, Union Township soon became a recognized branch of the county's existence, a position which it holds today. It is noted for its liberality in everything, for thrift and industry. Its principal town is West

Milton, or Milton, as it was first called. The town was named for John Milton, the English poet, and it is said that "Paradise Lost" held such a sway over the mind of a fair daughter of Union Township that she managed to have its chief town named for her favorite author.

West Milton, with a present population of over 1,000, is situated on the west bank of the Stillwater. The site of the town was selected by Joseph Evans, who came from the Newberry District, South Carolina. He was so pleased with the location that he resolved to establish a village at this point. The first lots were sold in 1807. For years the village had a sluggish growth, and as late as 1825 but three families occupied the site, but in course of time the village took on new life and began to assume considerable proportions. Oliver Benton became the first postmaster of West Milton and added the occupations of merchant and justice to his other one. He owned the only store in the town and wagoned his produce to Cincinnati. As the town grew, manufacture was encouraged, a carding machine was set up, and a woolen mill followed. Samuel Kelley was the proprietor of the mill, but in 1820 he sold out to David Thayer, who wove blankets there. In 1824 a scythe factory was established at West Milton and the manufacture of linseed oil became an infant industry there in 1819.

Not until 1840 did the town get an outlet by turnpike, when the one from Dayton tapped the place. Years afterward the railway came and now, besides this convenience, West Milton is tapped by the Dayton, Covington and Piqua Traction Line. About 1834 the prospering town took out papers of incorporation and C. W. Beebe was called to fill the first mayor's chair. To-day the town of West Milton has two prosperous banks, a number of manufactories, a fine school, excellent and commodious churches, well paved streets and handsome business blocks and dwellings, all of which go to make it one of the foremost towns in the county. Its future is bright, for its citizens take an interest in everything that goes to make it prosperous and influential as a town.

The present official roster of West Milton is as follows: Mayor—W. O. Martindale; clerk—Charles E. Fox; treasurer—Philip Yount; marshal—Cyrus Long; councilmen—David Stoltz, E. M. Crew, Oren Coates, A. G. Eidemiller, Smith Gassett, Cyrus Folkerth; board of education—Gainor Jennings, John Henderson.

The villages of New Lebanon and Laura are situated in Union Township. The former has a population of 250, the latter, 400. The picturesque hamlet of Ludlow Falls, near the beautiful cascade of the same name, is a promising place. New Lebanon, or Georgetown, was laid out in 1840. It has a German Baptist Church, and the postoffice is Potsdam. Laura, named for the daughter of its first postmaster, was incorporated in 1892, and is a well conducted, thriving town. It is officered at present as follows: Mayor—Robert Wylie; clerk—Arthur Hess; treasurer—George Swisher; marshal—Milton North; councilmen—Ellis Lowery, William Coate, Charles Hall, Urias Netzley, Benjamin Welbaum, Hervey Cassell.

NEWTON TOWNSHIP.

Newton Township, the second of the three known as the "Stillwater townships," occupies the extreme western part of the county. Newberry and Washington bound it on the north, Union on the south, Concord on the east, and Darke County on the west. It is watered by the Stillwater and tributary streams, and the land is fair and fertile. There is no township in the county that has better roads than Newton. These pikes, running in every direction, reach every section of the township, giving every inhabitant an excellent outlet everywhere.

The history of Newton Township is contemporaneous with the greater history of the county. The same class of people that poured into other parts of the Stillwater Valley gave Newton her share and established the division which bears her name. They came, many of them, from the South, from the Carolinas, from Georgia and adjacent states, and not a few had seen service under the banner of Washington. Hardy sons of the new republic were they, men inured to every danger, strong willed and capable of making a home north of the Ohio.

The first of these immigrants to Newton Township was Michael Williams, who had heard of the land from General Harrison. He came about 1799, and with his four sons, proceeded to build the new home in the Miami wilderness. In 1804 Marmaduke Coate, in spying out the Stillwater Valley, entered Newton Township and became its second pioneer. This family began at once to make an opening in the forest which rang with the music of their axes and before long the sunshine kissed soil it had never kissed before. There was determination in everything the Coates did, and Newton Township owes much today to this enterprising family.

Thomas Hill seems to have been the third settler to invade the township, which he did about 1805. Among other things, he is noted for having erected the first copper still ever seen in the township, and it is on record that he made the best of whiskey. After Hill came Thomas Coppock, the progenitor of one of the most noted families of the county. He, too, came from South Carolina. Coppock might be called one of the first abolitionists, for he was opposed to slavery and was not loath to leave a section where the crack of the slave driver's whip rang continually in his ears. He was a blacksmith by trade and obtained coal for his forge by burning charcoal. He was one of the first men in the county to be elected county commissioner.

One year after Coppock's arrival Samuel Teague, Benjamin and William Furnas took possession of Newton Township land and cleared the same. Jacob Embree followed the first newcomers, and William Long left Virginia to find a home in Newton. Long was another good citizen, and his household, it is said, furnished the third preacher in the county. In 1807 Alexander Mills arrived to swell the little colony in Newton; then followed the Iddingses, Ballingers, Mileses, Leavells, Perrys, Dicksons and others. Newton was increasing slowly but surely in population and it was of the best quality. There wasn't a drone in it. The Falkners, Renches, and Freshours added to the Newton colony, and the Teeters and Deeters established themselves near the Stillwater.

Industries soon began to spring up, primitive, it is true, but it was a laudable beginning. Embree erected a saw-mill with a corn-cracker attachment and the people rejoiced. Next Robert Dickson put up a saw-mill on Panther Creek and George Freshour went into the same business. Newton Township was surely "moving along."

In the midst of these growing industries the War of 1812 broke out, and for a time business was stifled. A dark cloud hung over the township, but when it was dissipated by the sunshine of peace, business flourished again. There were now numerous openings in the township where the forest had been and on every side was heard the hum of prosperity. Homes sprang up in every direction, farms were cultivated throughout the township and villages began to spring into existence. Newton Township bid fair to outstrip some of her neighbors.

Pleasant Hill, or Newton, as it was first called for Sir Isaac Newton, the philosopher, was surveyed by James Hanks in 1843. I. K. Teeter laid it out. The town which now has a population of 700 souls is the only one in the township. When the postoffice, which was first kept some distance from the town, was moved into it, John Whitmore became the postmaster. In 1866 the village was duly incorporated, its first officers being: Treasurer—Fred Deeter; marshal—J. G. Ritter; trustees—William Patty, M. D., John H. Williams, D. Minnich, John Whitmore and Joseph Pearson. The present official roster of the town is as follows: Mayor—D. M. Coppock; clerk—C. Roy Coppock; treasurer—D.E.Rothermal; marshal—Sidney Strong; council—H. H. Coppock, president; J. C. Kriegbaum, Henry Martindale, Martin L. Gates, Daniel Hayworth, Jesse Berry; board of public service—Dr. A. J. Bausman, G. P. Hoffman, Samuel Berger. In August, 1908, council passed an ordinance authorizing the sale of $16,000 worth of bonds for waterworks, which sold at a premium. Council also granted a franchise to a Covington firm to furnish electricity for lighting purposes. Pleasant Hill has shown its loyalty and public spirit in numerous ways, among these being the erection of a handsome monument in her public square to the memory of the heroic sons of Newton Township who went forth to do battle for the Union in 1861 and 1865. The township has one good bank situated in Pleasant Hill, where there are also one newspaper, several handsome churches, and up-to-date school building and several factories.

NEWBERRY TOWNSHIP.

Last but not least of the western tier of townships is Newberry. It occupies the northwest corner of the county and is bounded by Shelby County on the north, by Darke on the west, by Washington Township on the east and by Newton on the south. There is no exact data giving the organization of Newberry Township, but historians place it about 1810. The nomenclature of the name Newberry is also undiscoverable. It is watered by the Stillwater and Greenville Creek, into which flow numerous tributaries that afford it excellent drainage. In the early days of the township's existence it was the abode of many poisonous reptiles which infested the stony banks of its streams, but the settlers made war on them and they were finally exterminated.

South Carolina has the distinction of leading the way into Newberry. In 1806 one McDonald settled on Harrison's Creek near Covington, and in the following year Michael Ingle erected a cabin at the mouth of Trotter's Creek. Ingle was a tanner, but a farmer as well, and he resided on his farm till 1838. He is regarded as Newberry's first white settler. Following the Ingles came the Coates, William and John, and soon Daniel Wright put up his little cabin. These men were true sons of the soil and labored hard to establish themselves in their chosen quarters. In 1810 Jacob Ullery purchased land in Newberry Township and his selection has proven the most valuable within its limits.

Newberry Township's prosperity was hampered by the same misfortune that was felt in other parts of the county—the War of 1812. Some of her citizens were the first in the field. They saw the danger and responded nobly. Captain George Buchanan commanded a company in which many of Newberry's citizens served, and his scope was the Stillwater Valley, which was several times threatened by the Indians. A block-house, which stood near the site of the old Pan Handle Depot in Covington, afforded protection for the inhabitants. It was near the spot where stood "Fort Rowdy," which marked General Wayne's encampment in 1794.

At the breaking out of our second war with England there were nine families in Newberry Township. These people lived in constant dread during the greater part of the struggle, and though Indian depredations were committed in other parts of the county, Newberry did not experience any of the actual horrors of war.

The town of Covington, which is the principal municipality in Newberry Township, was laid out by David Wright and Jacob Ullery in 1816. Benjamin Cox surveyed the land for the town, but his work was never acknowledged by Ullery and Wright. There is a tradition that when the town came to be named, "Friendship" and "Newberry" were suggested, and even the name of "Rowdy" was thought of; but the first postoffice was called Stillwater, certainly an euphonious name. Afterward the name of Covington was given to the beautiful town.

When it came to house building, Elijah Reagan distanced all his competitors and erected the first one, Michael Ingle put up a double log cabin and Noah Hanks built a frame store. This is the genesis of Covington. After the house building came various industries until now Covington, for a town of its size, keeps pace with its neighbors. It has now a population of 1,800. It has furnished some prominent legislators in the Ohio Assembly and numerous county officers. The first election for town officers was held in 1835, at which the following were chosen: Mayor—Gilbert Adams; recorder—William Robinson; trustees—Charles Orwan, Joshua Orr, Thomas McKenzie. Samuel Patterson was elected mayor in 1837. From this date the mayor's record seems to have been lost, but the following persons have filled the office since 1850: B. Neff, Joseph Marlin, C. H. Gross, William Couffer, T. A. Worley, W. G. Bryant, Isaac Sherzer, David Diltz, J. L. Smart, John V. Griffin, Adam Minnich, D. C. Shellenbarger, J. H. Marlin, S. C. Sisson, D. J. Martin, S. D. Palmer, R. F. Alberry, M. H. Nill. The present roster of Covington is as follows: Mayor—M. H. Nill; clerk—Glen F. Shawver; treasurer—John S. Dollinger; marshal—H. J. Hake; council—W. H. Minton, B. Swisher, R. W. Himes, Charles McMakin, William Vandergrift, A. S. Rosenberger.

Covington is a well situated and well governed town. It has two banks (see "Banks and Banking"), two newspapers, the *Gazette* and *Tribune,* many churches, a fine system of waterworks, an electric light plant, a well-graded public school, three railways, two steam and one electric, and numerous shops and stores. There is no more progressive town in the county.

Newberry Township also contains a part of the town of Bradford, which has the Pan Handle yards, a bank and numerous industries. Several small clusters of houses which can scarcely be designated as towns dot the township and these show signs of healthy growth.

I have given briefly in the present chapter the history of the six western townships of the county. An unabridged history of the same would fill a whole volume. Some of the industries, etc., of these townships and their towns will be treated under proper heads later on. Suffice it to say that the western townships will compare favorably with similar divisions throughout the state. They have made wonderful strides since their formation, keeping pace with the march of progress, and abreast with everything that builds up a community. Having treated them less briefly than they deserve, owing to our limited space, we will now turn to the six townships that lie east of the Miami, for they have a history which will rival in interest that of their neighbors on the west.

CHAPTER VII.

THE TOWNSHIPS (EASTERN)

Brown, Springcreek, Staunton, Lostcreek, Elizabeth, Bethel.

That part of the county lying east of the Miami and embracing six townships can justly lay claim to the earliest settlement. The whole area was first called Elizabeth Township, but as the county increased in population and a demand was made for smaller divisions, it was cut up into the six townships which form the caption of the present chapter. The early history of these six townships is most interesting. While they contain no large municipalities, no commercial centers, and are known as the "rural townships," they are no less an integral part of the county. I shall not describe them in their priority of settlement and formation, but shall take them up from north to south in their geographical location.

BROWN TOWNSHIP.

The first settlement in Brown Township was made in 1806 by John Kiser, who was a Virginian. At first he located in the vicinity of Dayton, but leaving his first habitation after a brief sojourn, he moved northward till he entered the forests of Brown Township, where he concluded to build his cabin. His industry enabled him to clear some ground, upon which he put his first crops, and in course of time became one of the foremost farmers of the county. Isaac Kiser, son of this first settler, was the first white child born in Brown Township, and he first saw the light where the village of Fletcher now stands. The Kisers were well calculated to become the first settlers of a county. They came of a hardy stock of people and were men whom no trials could balk and to them Brown Township to-day owes much of its prosperity.

In 1807 John Simmons arrived from Pennsylvania and joined the little colony. He came with ten children to swell the scanty population. He built the first double-roomed cabin in the township and for a long time the structure was an object of curiosity among the neighbors. What was more, a porch extended the length of this wonderful house and during the summer the Simmons family dined thereon. Simmons had real glass windows, and this excited the envy of the less fortunate neighbors. His squeaking doors had wooden hinges and wooden catches. These catches were raised from the outside by means of a string and when the family were ready to retire at night they pulled the string inside and considered themselves secure. Of course there was no patent on the Simmons "safety lock."

William Concannon is credited with being the third man who settled in Brown Township. He, too, was an emigrant from the land of Penn. Concannon came in 1907, as did John Adney. Alexander Oliver was added to the township's population in 1808, but he soon grew tired of the location and, being of a roving disposition, he sold out and moved farther west. Everything went well within the limits of the township till the killing of Gerard and the Dilbones not far off, by the Indians, threw the inhabitants into a state of fear. A block-house was built on the Kiser farm in 1812 and became a retreat in time of danger. But the township was not invaded by the enemy and the block-house finally was put to other uses.

In the year 1818 the Munsells were added to the population of Brown Township, then the Malloys came three years later. About the same time John Wolcott and Giles Johnson put up their cabins and Michael Sills exchanged his home in Champaign County for one in Brown Township. It was impossible at this late day to enumerate all those who entered this township at the dawn of its history. Many records of the first settlers have been lost and that, I regret to say, through utter carelessness. Among the first families to inhabit Brown Township were those of William Cox, Edmund Yates, Joseph Jackson, Frederick Gray, Major Manning, John D. Cory, Joseph Shanks, William Manson, John Wilson, William Walkup, David Newcomb, Thomas McClure, Benjamin Sims, and Joseph Rollins, all good men and worthy citizens. Nearly all these families came from the East. They crossed the Alleghanies, taking that well-defined trail which led to the valley of the Miami and, pushing on, at length found a resting place in the county. Not one of them, it is said, ever repented his choice of a home.

In 1819 the township was formally organized. At that time it did not contain many inhabitants, but it was thought best to be "somebody in the world," as one of the organizers expressed it, so the township proceeded to elect officers as follows: Trustees—Alexander Oliver, William Walkup and William Manson; clerk—Joseph Rollins; treasurer—Levi Munsell; justice of the peace—John Wilson; supervisors—John Oliver and Daniel Newcomb; lister—Jacob Simmons; fence viewer—Benjamin Sims; house appraiser—Thomas McClure; overseers of the poor—John Simmons and Peter Kiser. This was quite an array of officials for a township, but doubtless the exigencies of the occasion demanded it, though in later years some of the officers were lopped off and the business of the township delegated to fewer officials.

Brown Township soon became one of the most progressive of the six east of the Miami. Isolated somewhat from the early markets, it had a slow growth for a few years, but it at last overcame these difficulties, until now it is accessible to the best markets in the state. It has for years been favored with shipping facilities by the Pennsylvania lines, which now cross the township from east to west, tapping its two towns, Fletcher and Conover, and affording to the farmer a splendid outlet for his products.

Fletcher is the only incorporated town

in Brown Township. John L. Malloy laid it out in 1830. The first store in the village was kept by Samuel Dougherty and a queer store it was. His shelves were laden with every species of merchandise required by his customers. It was a miscellaneous stock, from shoe pegs to liquors, and what Dougherty didn't sell could not be found in any store in the county. Samuel Crane soon appeared as a rival of Dougherty's, probably to prevent him from getting all the money there was in the neighborhood, and later an Isaac Dukemineer put up a brick store and Fletcher put on the airs of a metropolis. The village was named Fletcher in 1814. To-day this pretty little village has a population of about 400 and is officered as follows: Mayor—R. E. Berryhill; clerk—W. O. Shreve; treasurer—I. C. Kiser; marshal—W. D. Kiser; council—Joel Carter, Bent Erhart, Daniel Kiser, Barna Ralston, James Gayhart, John Moore; board of education—W. L. Mumford, Joseph Coppock, W. R. Doub, James T. Hartley, Charles Morton.

Fletcher is the home of a progressive public school, several good church edifices, a town hall, and several fraternal societies. It also contains a grain elevator and its shipping facilities are of the best.

Conover is a small town lying four miles east of Fletcher on the Pittsburg, Cincinnati & St. Louis Railway. It was laid out in 1856 and was named for A. G. Conover, one of the surveyors of the county. It contains several stores, shops and a church, the latter of the Universalist order. Its entire population is perhaps 100 souls.

Lena, also in Brown Township, is situated a short distance north of Conover. It was founded in 1830 by Levi Robbins. The town was first called Elizabeth, but the name was afterward substituted for that of Lena, but the postoffice was called Allen's. It is not on the railroad. While it remains but a village, after the rather lengthy period of its existence, it is a busy little place, containing several stores, good houses and a prosperous lodge of Free Masons. Brown Township is the banner Democratic township of the county and can always be relied upon to roll up a large majority for that party.

SPRING CREEK TOWNSHIP.

Spring Creek Township, lying west of Brown, is bounded northward by Shelby County, westward by Washington Township and south by Staunton. It contains no incorporated towns, though a large collection of shops and houses within its borders; across the Miami River opposite Piqua has been called East Piqua. There was no more inviting prospect to the early settlers than Spring Creek Township. Well watered and well wooded, it seemed an ideal place for a home, and thither the discriminating emigrants flocked. It was chosen as the permanent abode of the first white settler of the county, John Hilliard, who came from New Jersey in 1792. Hilliard first located somewhere in West Virginia, but, not liking the locality, turned his face towards Ohio and after a brief residence in Hamilton County, not far from where Cincinnati now stands, he finally took up land in Spring Creek Township. The latter move he made in 1797.

At that time the whole region embraced by this township was an unbroken forest. Game of every kind roamed wild through the sylvan solitudes and roving bands of Indians sought the region as a hunting ground. About the time of Hilliard's coming, a busy little Frenchman, named Latour, put up a trading store and dickered with the Indians for furs, etc. The trader, who was a sort of human will-o'-the-wisp, did not make his residence permanent, so it was left for Hilliard to become the first permanent white settler in the township. He put up his cabin and cleared the land, bringing up his family in the new home.

John Hilliard's first house was a bark affair, rude and not altogether comfortable. This called for a more substantial home, and one was built from round poles. It was an improvement on the first attempt at house building. "The roof of this house was of rude clap-boards and the chimney a most inartistic pile of mud and sticks; the floor was partially covered with puncheon plank, while, in lieu of a door, a large old quilt hung, curtain-like, over the aperture, which answered the purposes of ingress and egress." In this primitive house, if house the structure may be called, the Hilliards made themselves as comfortable as possible. The family was almost entirely shut off from the real comforts of life. The nearest mill for some time was at Dayton, then but a collection of cabins, and the grinding of the grist necessitated a long and toilsome journey through the wilderness. It is believed that the unremitting toil of this pioneer shortened his life, for after a few years of labor he was carried to his grave by his few neighbors who had followed him into the Spring Creek wilderness.

It was one of the most pathetic and strangest funerals in the forests of the Miami. The white mourners were accompanied to the grave by a number of friendly Indians, who gazed with awe upon the burial rites, something entirely new to them. After the burial the Indians collected in little groups and for a while discussed the affair, then stole silently into the forest and disappeared. Not until several years had passed did the Hilliards possess any white neighbors. At last, in 1804, the Dilbones came. This family met with a tragic ending so far as its heads are concerned, Mr. Dilbone and wife being killed by the Indians during the War of 1812, an event narrated in another part of this work. The Dilbones were Pennsylvanians and were an industrious class of people. Mrs. Dilbone was one of the first flax spinners in the county, and she was famous for her dexterity in this direction. It will be remembered that the couple were attacked while laboring in a flax field near their humble home.

William Frost left North Carolina in 1805 and settled in Spring Creek Township. He brought with him some of the habits peculiar to the region from which he emigrated. He was fond of hunting and was celebrated for his skill with the rifle. His son Ebenezer is said to be the second white child born in Spring Creek Township. In the same year that witnessed the coming of the Frosts, John R. McKinney entered the township. McKinney was a bachelor, who after a while became tired of living alone and, without much effort on the young lady's part, he was captured by Miss Jane Scott. 1807 This was probably one of the first matches made in Spring Creek Township and doubtless one of the happiest, for McKinney's log cabin was soon exchanged for a more pretentious house, and the love and skill of his wife made life pleasant for him.

From Maryland in 1808 came John Millhouse, and the same year Gardner Bobo cleared some ground for a farm. These settlers were followed by Mathias Scudder, Uriah Blue, James L. McKinney, Dennis Lindley and Henry Millhouse. These people settled, not in one locality, but scattered out and established themselves in different parts of the township. The better homes of the settlers were to be seen in every direction. They took pride in the building of their homes; they patterned after one another and soon had dwelling places supplied with not a few conveniences for the times. A writer speaking of this period of the settlement of Spring Creek Township says:

> At this period domesticated animals were quite numerous, especially hogs were raised by the farmers in considerable abundance. The markets being distant and no railroads in the country, the hogs were driven through to Baltimore, Pittsburg and Philadelphia, and much of the way being through miry woods, many weeks were required to make the journey and return. Owing to the fact that fences were not kept up by the early settlers, their stock roamed the woods at large and hogs, especially not being easily distinguished from others of their own kind, became at times mixed with those belonging to a different herd, and in attempting to separate them it was necessary to put an end to numerous disputes which arose over the ownership of the stock.
>
> A system of marking was agreed upon, so that every man had his own mark by which he could distinguish his stock from that of his neighbor, which always bore a different mark from his own. These marks were deposited with the township clerk, so that afterwards all disputes were settled by referring to his book, which contained such declarations as the following: "This is to certify that the marks used by Uriah Blue for the year 1815 will be two slits on the upper side of the right ear." Another reads: "The mark used by Gardner Bobo for the year 1815 will be a notch cut in the tip of the left ear." This usually settled the matter and from that time no trouble was experienced from this source.

This same system was in vogue in other parts of the county, as the old Clarke's books will show, especially in those divisions which lie east of the river.

During the Indian troubles which grew out of our second war with England one or more block-houses were erected in the township. One was built on the Hilliard farm and in after years was used by the farmer as a barn. The close of the war was followed by added immigration into this locality, which had been checked by hostilities. Samuel Wiley came from Maryland with one of the largest families that emigrated to the county. It consisted of sixteen children, an emphatic declaration that the Wileys were not partial to "race suicide." Following the Wileys came the Kearns, Furrows, Hendershots, Gateses, Webbs, Jacksons, Floyds, Deweeses and many others whose family names are household words in the township at the present day.

The township was formally instituted in 1814, with the following duly elected officers: Trustees—Henry Orbison, James L. McKinney, Uriah Blue; clerk—Lewis Deweese; treasurer—David Floyd; constables—John Wilson and Jacob Gates; lister (assessor)—John Webb. Business was light for the township officials for some years and they had little or nothing to do. However, as the population and general business increased, the needs of the township augmented until now it is regarded as one of the busiest and most important rural divisions of the county.

Spring Creek Township, owing to its natural water supply, became the site of many of the first mills, grist and otherwise, of the county. These mills were much needed by the people, as the nearest even were miles away and necessitated long journeys, which broke into the daily farm work. James McKinney put up a corn-cracker mill on Spring Creek and Silas Manning operated another. A Mr. Ross combined a grist-mill with a carding-mill about 1830 and operated it successfully. Samuel Wiley erected the first saw-

ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, TROY

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, TROY

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH, PIQUA

BRETHREN CHURCH, PLEASANT HILL

Y. M. C. A., PIQUA

CHRISTIAN CHURCH, PIQUA

mill on Spring Creek in 1815 and sawed lumber for the first frame houses in the township. His example was followed by Elias Manning and Dr. Jackson. Several small distilleries also were erected and their output was either shipped out of the county or consumed within its limits.

Shawneetown, opposite the northern limits of Piqua, and *Rossville,* to the east of the same city, both separated from it by the Great Miami, are the only towns in Spring Creek Township. Neither is incorporated. Rossville dates back to 1840, and Shawneetown was laid out about the same time. Both towns have been overshadowed by the growth of Piqua, of which city they are now suburbs.

Spring Creek Township has long been noted for its excellent and well cultivated farms, its graded turnpikes, good country schools, a good class of citizens, intelligent and progressive, and in fact for a thousand and one other things that go toward keeping it in the front rank of township governments.

STAUNTON TOWNSHIP.

Staunton Township, the longest of the twelve divisions of the county, extending from the southern line of Spring Creek to the northern boundary of Monroe, has a history peculiarly its own. Its elongated appearance on the county map has brought forth numerous comments, being wide at the top and running wedge-like southward till it seems about to dart arrow-like into the domain of Monroe. Its western boundary is very uneven, owing to the windings of the Miami, which separates it from the western part of the county. It has not a cluster of houses which can be called by the name of town, though, if history can be relied upon, it had a narrow escape from becoming the county-seat township. The few houses which form what is known as the hamlet of Staunton became the first official habitation of the county, for here the first court was held, in the house of Peter Felix, the trader, and here primitive justice was first dispensed to the evildoers.

Staunton much desired the county seat, but lost out in the deal, and when the seat of justice and otherwise crossed the Miami and was established at Troy, much to the chagrin of Piqua, Staunton henceforth lost much of its importance. To-day it has not so much as a recognition on the map. But when one looks back upon the genesis of the county and notes the early struggles that preceded the establishment of the county seat he is prone to give Staunton her just dues.

It has been narrated in a previous chapter how the Knoops and other hardy pioneers established themselves at "Dutch Station," which occupied the site of the present hamlet of Staunton. It is not necessary to refer to them here. Besides the initial settlers at Dutch Station there were others who came across the rugged barriers of the mountains and found homes among the forests that stretched eastward from the banks of the Miami. Perhaps the names of some of these men have been lost, but all were worthy members of that advance guard of civilization which made the woods of the Miami blossom like the rose. It is a fairly established fact that the early explorers of this region reached the lands of Staunton. Peter Felix—shrewd little Frenchman that he was—was one of the first white men to settle in Staunton Township and the hard bargains he drove with the Indians over his counter enabled him to erect at Staunton the first tavern, where he entertained all with the natural eclat of one of his race. Simon Landry was probably contemporaneous with Felix. In 1807 Amariah Smalley put up a blacksmith shop, though he did not shoe many horses till later in life. Levi Martin was another of the Staunton pioneers. His wife was scalped by the Indians and left for dead, but she eventually recovered and lived many years to exhibit to the younger generations the scalp mark on her cranium.

Henry Marshall and John Defrees came into the township in 1806 and lived upon their farms till death claimed them at a green old age. A Virginian, named William McCampbell, entered the township in 1807, and subsequently became one of the first justices of the peace elected in the county. About the same time the Staunton colony was increased by the arrival of Jacob Riddle, William and James Clark. A few years afterward John Gilmore built his house near the Miami, but previously Uriah Blue, Richard Winans, John Julian and Rev. William Clark had come.

The early pioneers of the township had more than their share of Indian troubles. Situated as many of them were along the banks of the Miami, which afforded abundant waterways for the little canoes of the red prowlers, there were many alarms, some of them fortunately false. A story showing the perils and annoyances to which the Staunton settlers were put is told of the Carver family. At one time when Mr. Carver was hauling wood on a sled, an Indian, well loaded with the white man's "fire water," proceeded to make the woods resound with his heathenish yells. These so frightened Carver's team that it was all the settler could do to restrain his horses. He begged the drunken brave to desist, but as he exhibited no intentions in that direction, Carver proceeded to lay him out with a cudgel, whereupon the hilarious red man, upon recovering, betook himself to a less dangerous locality. Quite frequently bands of drunken Indians kept the women and children of Staunton Township in a state of terror, and at times the settlers, when forebearance had ceased to be a virtue, took the law into their own hands and visited the drunken warriors with well merited thrashings.

I cannot refrain from going back to the reminiscent days of Dutch Station. A whole volume might be filled with the story of the men who erected it after casting their fortunes in the Miami wilderness. It has aptly been said, as showing the prominence of this township, that "the Dutch Station" was the first place of settlement, Staunton was the first town in the county, and the first seat of justice.

Jane Gerard Deweese was the first female white child, and Jacob Knoop the first male white child born in Staunton Township, dating back to 1800. Peter Felix, as I have already said, was a man who could drive a cool, hard bargain. He frequently sold needles to the unsophisticated Indians at one dollar apiece and when the would-be purchaser demurred to the price Peter without the semblance of a smile on his bland face would inform his customer that the needle maker was dead and that he (Peter) was offering the last of his stock dirt cheap. This bit of craft generally closed the deal, and the Indian would walk off congratulating himself on the bargain, while Peter's white witnesses of the transaction playfully observed that the needle maker had a knack of dying that was astonishing, not to say commendable.

The full history of Staunton Township, especially that interesting part which comprises its early chapter, in all probability will never be written. Some of this history has been merged into that of other townships. Upon the establishment of the county seat at Troy, Staunton lost some of its prestige, though she still deserves the appellation of "The Mother of the County."

A few years ago Miami Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, marked with a huge boulder the site of the old Dutch Fort at Staunton. This memorial appropriately inscribed is one of several which have been placed within the boundaries of Miami County to mark historic spots. It is said that General Wayne's army passed through a part of Staunton Township in 1794. It was also the scene of several animated scouting expeditions during the War of 1812.

Situated in Staunton Township is the County Infirmary, with the buildings pertaining thereto. The land was purchased by the county in 1838, the buildings erected the following year, and opened for the reception of inmates in 1840. In 1853 a storm demolished the Infirmary buildings, injuring a number of the public charges, but a year later new buildings were ready for occupancy. Since then additional buildings have been added, especially one for the proper care of the insane. To-day the Miami County Infirmary is one of the best institutions of the kind in the state and has been well conducted from the first. The inmates are well cared for, the buildings well kept up and the finances of the institution satisfactorily managed. The Miami County Infirmary is the largest public institution on the eastern side of the river, the other being the Knoops Children's Home in Elizabeth Township.

LOST CREEK TOWNSHIP.

There is a tradition to the effect that the term "Lost Creek" originated back in the days of the red man. It is asserted, with what degree of truth none can say at this late day, that an Indian once lost his bearings along the stream now called Lost Creek. When accosted by a friendly settler who observed the Indian's state of mind, the brave replied that not only was the Indian lost, but the creek as well, hence the name Lost Creek, which the stream bears to the present day, as well as the township through which it flows.

The county commissioners at their session on December 10, 1818, decreed that a certain area bounded on the north by Brown Township, on the south by Elizabeth and on the east by Jackson Township in Champaign County should be called Lost Creek. Prior to this time, in fact as early as 1804, Willis Northcutt and John Rogers had settled within this area. Later General John Webb and Alexander McDowell, Sr., two men who had taken part in the War of 1812, entered the township and permanently located there. Some of the early records of Lost Creek have been lost, but enough is known to say that John Lenon, George W. Green, and James Buckles were the first duly elected trustees, and that J. K. McFarland acted as clerk. The first township election was held at the home of George Puterbaugh, near the site of the now demolished Lost Creek

Baptist Church. Very few votes were polled. There was no "log rolling," as now, and the ballots were bits of white paper, the names of the candidates being written in ink. From this first election, almost a century ago, sprang the government of Lost Creek Township.

Among the old settlers of Lost Creek Township—not in the order of their arrival, for that is impossible to give—were Elisha Webb, Asa Rogers, Abram Cromer, James Buckles, Timothy Green, James Frazee, George Green, Willis Northcutt, John W. Martin, Willis Hance, Benjamin Hance, Giles Johnson, Allen Ralston, William Babb, Daniel Knoop, John Wilson, William Burton, Thomas Shidler, Henry Whitmore, William Wallace, Richard Palmer, W. C. Knight, William Saunders, John Lenon, David Archer, Jonathan Yates, Reuben Westfall, John Darst, Thomas Stretch, Joseph Webb, Joseph Layton, James Fordyce, Jonas Sutton, D. H. Knoop, Thomas Long, Barnett Rapp, Samuel McDowell, John Shanks, Levi Martin, Jacob Youtsey, Jonathan Covault, Josiah Martin, Peter Clyde, Levi Trimmens and Andrew Egnew.

These were the men who cleared the Lost Creek forests and opened up that township. They came from various parts of the Union. They made long and perilous journeys to the new homes, and by their perseverance made the woodlands put on new beauty. All were hardy, honest, God-fearing people, who raised large families where they settled. Lost Creek Township is peopled to-day by many descendants of its first pioneers.

There is nothing exciting in the history of this township. It saw none of the border troubles which during the War of 1812 kept some of the other townships in a state of ferment. The only event of that war which belongs to the township is the march of General Isaac Hull's army on its way to Detroit. Hull came through the Miami wilderness from Dayton and crossed Lost Creek Township. He found a blockhouse near where the George McDowell homestead now stands, and halted there to rest his men. The march from Dayton had told severely on the little army; the men were almost shoeless and on the occasion above referred to the pioneer women of Lost Creek bound up the bleeding feet with blankets and gave of their provisions to refresh the army.

The early enterprises of the township were few. In 1814 John McFarland erected a carding-mill and fulling-mill near where Casstown now stands, and Green and Frazee put up a couple of grist-mills which were badly needed. Gen. John Webb was elected justice of the peace in 1819 and served many years in that capacity. One of the other early justices was Thomas Shidler, who became a member of the Legislature. General Webb, who lived to a good old age, came from Kentucky. He moved with his parents to Ohio in 1797 and settled first near the site of Dayton.

General Webb volunteered in 1813 to take part in the war with England. He was not permitted, however, to see any arduous service, as during the greater part of his enlistment he was stationed at Greenville. He afterwards became a major-general in the Ohio militia and upon the breaking out of the Rebellion in 1861 he drilled a company of Home Guards, which afterward went to the front. During the Civil War Lost Creek Township furnished more than two hundred men to the Union armies, and these took part in some of the most desperate conflicts of that war.

Casstown. The only municipality within the boundaries of Lost Creek Township is the village of Casstown. It was laid out in 1832 by Levi Trimmens. It was first called Trimmensburg, but the name not suiting the first inhabitants it was changed to Casstown, being the only postoffice of that name in the United States. Casstown now contains about 300 people. The first brick house erected in the village was built by Daniel Knoop, who for many years engaged in the merchandising business there. The village is four miles east of Troy, on the Springfield, Troy and Piqua Railway. It has several stores, a grain elevator, three churches, an Odd Fellows Lodge, good cement sidewalks, and is quite a business center. Some of its early mayors were John T. Webb, Abram Merritt and Henry Jackson. Others were J. B. Geisinger, Charles P. Young, H. P. McDowell, James M. Stuart, John C. Knoop. The present official roster is as follows: Mayor—W. W. Baker, clerk—F. G. Main; treasurer—Samuel Knoop; marshal—John H. Harbaugh; council—J. W. Fuller, Charles Conner, Alexander Long, Frank Simmons, Thomas Lewis, W. R. Wilgus; board of education—George M. Boak, Joseph Burton, Jesse Davis, Samuel Porter, W. W. Baker. Casstown has a well-graded high school, conducted by F. G. Main as principal and Horace Motter and Miss Pear Main as assistants. In the center of the township lies a collection of houses known locally as Sodom of Pencetown. It has never advanced beyond the dignity of a hamlet.

ELIZABETH TOWNSHIP.

Elizabeth Township is the only one in the county which retains the name originally given to the area, or a part of it, which was first embraced within the county limits. The western part of the county, known as Randolph Township, lost its name when it was broken up into townships. There is no record of settlements in Elizabeth Township prior to 1800, the settlers, seemingly not having penetrated that far eastward.

The states of Kentucky, Pennsylvania and Virginia furnished some of the first white men who came to Elizabeth Township. These were Michael Shidaker, John and Jacob Mann, George Williams, John Flynn, John Gearhart, and the Cecils. They found the forests of Elizabeth unbroken by the work of the settler, and they at once set to work to flood the ground with sunshine and establish themselves on farms. It took a good deal of energy for these men to bring order out of chaos, but they were equal to the emergency. All day long their axes rang in the wildwood, and cabin homes began to appear in every direction. They were installing a little commonwealth of their own.

John Shidaker, one of the first settlers, was a shrewd man. He purchased a whole section of land from the government and walked to Cincinnati to make the payments, carrying his gun on his shoulder. Fearing that the Indians or some desperate white man might rob him, he carried his money in his gun. It is stated that he got through safely, completed his transaction and tramped back to his cabin home. Samuel Kyle was another of the early settlers of Elizabeth Township. He was a Pennsylvanian. He was one of the first pioneer preachers of the county, having joined the Christian Church with his parents. He organized the Cove Spring Church in a log schoolhouse that stood on or near the Kyle cemetery. He served as pastor of the church for many years, and at one time was a member of the state Legislature.

In 1813 Robert Sproul came from Ireland and settled near the Cove Spring Church. He was a pronounced Presbyterian. Jacob Harter, another of Elizabeth's pioneers, served in the War of 1812 and took part in the siege of Fort Meigs and the battle of Perrysburg. Harter, while reared in Kentucky, was a native of Virginia. A number of the settlers of this township took part in the war. John Williams and Jacob Mann both bore a captain's commission, and Philip Sailor, William Mitchell, William Shearer and John Shidaker were privates. It is narrated that all these men were fearless and faithful in the discharge of their duties and were a credit to the community which they represented.

For some time after the settling of the township the Pottawatomies gave the whites no little trouble. The Indians committed no depredations, but they had the habit of lurking around the settlements, frightening the women and children and keeping them always in a state of alarm. The people of the township were greatly relieved when the last Indian took his departure and the frontier saw him no more. With the Indian were the wild animals. Wolves were plentiful in the township, even as late as 1820, and it required the utmost exertions of the settlers to exterminate them. Sheep, which had been early brought into the township, the first flock by the Knoops, were visited by wolves and numbers of them destroyed. They were the ferocious grey wolves and their predatory excursions in packs forced the settlers to keep large dogs capable of doing battle with the invaders. More than one desperate conflict took place between wolf and mastiff.

John W. Dye built the first mill in Elizabeth Township. It stood on Lost Creek near the stone house which stands on the John Lefevre farm. It was a wonder of the early days, as it was built in 1813. In order to accommodate the people, a road was built from the Dye mill to Troy, an innovation which was much appreciated. In 1823 Michael Carver put up the second grist-mill, and others followed. Distilleries, saw-mills, turning-lathes, and other industries followed one another until Elizabeth Township became one of the most progressive of the east side divisions. For years good roads were unknown, but at last came the Troy and Springfield Pike, which runs through the township from east to west, and other efforts in good road building became successful. To-day the township is well supplied with good roads.

Alcony. Having no incorporated town, Elizabeth Township is in this particular a little behind some of her neighbors. The village of Alcony, or Miami City, as it is sometimes called, is the only settlement within her area. Carr, Hart and Vandeveer laid it out in 1858, and Philip Dick erected the first house. The village has now a population of 200 and lies in a beautiful region. Some years ago a postoffice was established there and the people are now served daily by the rural route system. Alcony has a good church, good pavements, and her people are among the most progressive in the county. Elizabeth Township contains the Knoop Children's Home, an account of which will be given in another chapter.

In this township are found numerous small cemeteries which mark the last resting place of many of the first settlers. It seems that in the early days families buried their dead on the farms instead of in a general graveyard, and this probably accounts for the many small God's acres. Not a few soldiers of the Revolution are buried in this township. These men, after serving in the Continental army, sought a home beyond the Alleghanies and were laid away among the growing settlements of the Miami country.

It would require too much space to enumerate the full history of Elizabeth Township or to record the strides she has made since the coming of her first settlers. The township now has a population of 1,400 and can boast of one of the best country school systems ever devised. This is shown by the class of scholars turned out by the annual examinations.

BETHEL TOWNSHIP.

The southeasternmost division of the county, called Bethel Township, will finish this account of the twelve little commonwealths that make up the body politic of the county proper. The boundaries of Bethel as formed by the county commissioners at their first meeting have never been changed. The first settlement of the township goes back to the life of the Dutch Station at Staunton. One Thomas Stockstill, a Tennesseean, who became disgusted with the system of slavery which prevailed in the South at the close of the eighteenth century, left his father's roof and finally settled in the northeast corner of the township. It was probably the first actual settlement in the county, as it was made in 1797. Stockstill came north as a youth; growing to manhood among the woods of Bethel and lived to become one of the township's most useful citizens.

After Stockstill's coming, others, attracted by the beauty of the land in Bethel, erected homes there and opened up the region. Among these were David Morris, Sr., a New Jersey man; Robert and John Crawford, Samuel Morrison, Mordecai Mendenhall, John Ross, Daniel Agenbrood, the Saylors, Puterbaughs, Claytons, Ellises, Studebakers and Newcombs. Some of these people were of the Dunkard persuasion, a class of inhabitants noted for their honesty, good habits and worth. This little colony soon made Bethel Township one of the most desirable in the county, and their presence there induced other immigrants to share their fortunes. They represented several of the original states of the American Union.

Bethel Township experienced certain hardships which were not visited upon her neighbors. Lost Creek Township suffered during the famous cholera epidemic, but Bethel fell a prey to fever and other diseases, owing to a poor system of drainage in the marshy region in the northeast corner of the township. This state of affairs discouraged some of the most hopeful of the population. There were few doctors those days, and they were of a school not very progressive. Then they were few and far between, and the various diseases spread so rapidly that for a time the mortality was very great. The lance and calomel were the stock in trade of the old physicians and they were ever administered without stint and to the detriment of the sufferers. At one time it looked as though a portion of the township would be depopulated. The few carpenters within the disease belt transformed themselves into undertakers, and night and day they were busy burying the dead. No system of embalming was known. To the credit of the self-constituted undertakers be it said that they refused compensation for their services. At last the low lands were drained, and almost like magic the sickness disappeared, but it had populated many a little cemetery and filled more than one community with mourning.

Besides this strange death sickness, Bethel Township experienced during her early history some trouble with Indians. The savages found excellent lurking places among the hills that are to be found in some parts of the township, and from these they made frequent incursions into the neighboring country. On one of these occasions a young girl named Hacker was overtaken, scalped and left for dead on the ground. She was found in an unconscious condition after the departure of the Indians and conveyed to her home. The victim of the assault not only recovered, but raised a new crop of hair, and also a family. In course of time the Indian demonstrations ceased and the inhabitants of Bethel Township enjoyed a long period of peace.

Brandt and West Charleston are the largest villages in Bethel Township. The former is situated on the famous National Pike and contains about 200 inhabitants. It was founded in 1839. Being some distance from a railroad, it has not made the growth it otherwise would have done. John Dinsmore was the first tavern keeper in Brandt, which place was at one time famous for a plow factory installed by Wilmington and King. When the building of new pikes became one of the features of Bethel Township, the old National Road fell into disuse and much of the former glory of Brandt vanished. It has now several stores, a postoffice, one or more churches, and several nurseries which have more than local significance.

West Charleston is one of the oldest towns in the county and was laid out by Charles Friend in 1807. The town lies on the Troy and Dayton Pike, which road, it is asserted, was originally cut out as a trace by General Wayne. For some years West Charleston maintained considerable importance, but when it came to be missed by the canal and the railroad, it lost much of its former prestige and developed into a quiet village. To-day it contains probably 200 souls. Not far away are found the ''Charleston Falls,'' which of late years have become a summer resort for the contiguous country. The ''Falls'' possess much natural beauty and are connected with some of the most interesting legends of Bethel Township. In concluding the history of the townships of Miami County I have been briefer than they deserve. Much could yet be told concerning them. Some of their statistical history will be found in another part of this work. Perhaps in no other county in the state is there a history so interesting as ours. During the first century of its existence Miami County has made prodigious strides along the highway of progress, and to this glorious consummation the several townships have worked in unison. Each township within our borders may proudly take for its motto the phrase "*Imperium in imperio.*"

CHAPTER VIII.

TROY, THE COUNTY SEAT

Establishment of the County Seat—Rivalry Between Staunton and Piqua; Troy Enters the Contest—First Survey by Andrew Wallace—Absence of Graft—Description of Troy in 1815—Log Court House Built—Brick Court House Built in 1816—Overfield's Tavern—Queer Real Estate Transactions—William Barbee—"Squire" Brown and Other Early Settlers—The "Broadford War"—First Railroad—Opening of the Canal—The Cholera Scourge in 1850—First Court of Common Pleas—Troy Merchants in 1828—The Jackson-Adams Campaign—Runaway Apprentices—Appearance of the County Seat in 1853—Mayors Since 1840—Early Schools and School Teachers—Churches—The Postffice—City Government—Corner Stone of the Court House Laid, 1885—Masonic Temple Erected.

It was about ten years from the time of the appearance of the first white settlers in the county until the establishment of the county seat at Troy. A court of justice had previously operated at Staunton, being held in the house of Peter Felix, the trader; but the need of a permanent county seat was felt and it was determined to set it up. Already a good deal of rivalry existed between the various interests in the county. Piqua desired to have the honor of being the county town and there were those who considered Staunton the best site. Among the latter the pride of first settlement existed. The first settlement had been made at Staunton, and its central situation appealed to many. A good deal of "log rolling" took place.

The county was formed by an act of the Legislature dated January 16, 1807, but it was not until the following September that the commission appointed to lay out the seat of justice for Miami County made their return to the court. This report was signed by Jesse Newport, Daniel Wilson and Joseph Lamb. They fixed upon Fractional Section 21, and the northeast quarter of Section 28, Town 5, Range 6, east of a meridian line drawn from the mouth of the Great Miami River. The site selected consisted of forty acres and was owned by Aaron Tullis, who deeded the tract to Cornelius Westfall, town director, on the 31st day of July, 1813, for $120.30, or about three dollars per acre. On the same day William Barbee and Alexander McCullough deeded to the town director the east part, northeast quarter of Section 28, containing 144 acres and 77 poles, for $421.50.

From the very outset a relentless warfare began over the establishment of the county seat upon the spot described above. The commissioners had been bothered almost to death by the advocates of the different sites. Piqua seemed to consider herself in line for the county seat and could not realize that it could be placed elsewhere than within her limits. As the controversy over this important matter progressed the county seat campaign waxed extremely warm. Piqua got out a map prepared especially to establish her claims and Piqua was the only visible settlement on the map. Troy, in order to controvert Piqua's assumption, forthwith went into the map business herself and produced a chart which showed Troy in the center of the county and her rival so far away, apparently, that communication with the rest of the county would be well nigh impossible. It was then that the rivalry between the two towns began, and the first "court house war" was succeeded by another many years later by the descendants of those who contended in the first.

Not to be left in the lurch, Staunton put in a bid for the county seat. It was claimed that the site of the Dutch Station was the most desirable. The Hathaway and Marshall farms were offered as excellent sites for Miami's seat of justice, and Samuel Beedle and Judge Adams were anxious to sell their farms for this laudable purpose. It was therefore a sore disappointment to Piqua and the landed lords of Staunton when it was decreed that Concord Township should hold the county seat.

The town which was to be thus honored was first surveyed by Andrew Wallace, who completed his work December 16, 1807. He was allowed $44.50 for his services, and Robert Crawford for his services as director, purchasing the site, laying out and selling the lots, was allowed twenty-four dollars. There was no graft in those days, the whole proceedings were singularly free from all chicanery and everything was honestly conducted.

January 13, 1810, the court settled with Robert Crawford and it was found that he had sold lots to the amount of $2,820, that he had paid accounts as per vouchers, to the amount of $2,163, and paid orders on the treasury, $415. It was then ordered that he be allowed in future on the amount of all lots sold five per cent; and on all moneys received and paid out, four per cent, and fifty cents for each deed executed to purchasers. The first survey of Troy comprised eighty-seven lots, commencing on Water and Clay Streets, numbered one, extending and comprising all between the river and Back Street to Short Street.

I extract from Drake's "Picture of Cincinnati and the Miami Country," published in 1815, the following concerning the new county seat:

> Troy, on the west side of the Great Miami, twenty miles above Dayton and seventy-two miles north of Cincinnati, is the seat of Justice. It was laid out by the commissioners in 1808 and incorporated in 1814. It has a public library and a post office. The houses are chiefly of wood. No permanent county buildings have yet been erected. The reserves and donations by the commissioners are, a square for the court house; one lot for the jail, another for the cemetery and a square for an academy. The site of this place is handsome, but a bayou is occasionally formed across it in high floods and the plain declines into a swamp at the distance of a mile from the river. This swamp, lying to the southwest of the town, has rendered it unhealthy, but the expense of a drain that would convert it into dry and arable land is not estimated very high. As in other towns on the Miami, well water is easily obtained. Sandy limestone is quarried about two miles distant. Good timber is plentiful.

Shortly after the establishment of the county seat a log court house was built. It was a double-log house and was well built; one end of the structure was used for confining prisoners, the other end comprised the sheriff's living room, while court was held in the upper story. The log court house was occupied until 1816, when it was superceded by one of brick, which was erected in the Public Square. This temple of justice cost $2,500 and stood until 1841, when a third court house, which occupied the present site of the postoffice was built at an expense of $20,000.

With the establishment of the county seat west of the river the glories of Staunton departed. Piqua started to outrival Troy, and other town sites were laid out in different parts of the county. Beautifully situated on the banks of the Miami, then dressed in the emerald garb of Nature, the new county seat opened its doors to the world. It grew rapidly from the first. There were several additional surveys as new land was added to the town, and there were frequent sales of lots.

One of the first settlers of Troy was a Mr. Overfield, who became the first Boniface of the town. He opened an excellent tavern for that day, and treated all alike. No matter whether his guests came in buckskin or broadcloth, they got the same attention, and Overfield soon became famous as a tavern keeper. This tavern became a great resort for those who attended the first courts held at the county seat. The latest news and the latest decisions were discussed about his fire, and some pretty heated arguments were indulged in. There was good whiskey at the tavern and it is to be supposed that the flowing bowl went round during the discussions. When this first Boniface of Troy had a little leisure he was to be found nights on the Miami, fire-hunting for deer for he was a famous Nimrod and loved the sport. More than once the venison he served his guests was of his own killing.

To show some of the queer real estate transactions which took place early in Troy, I will give a deal of Overfield's as a sample. The tavern keeper bargained with Cornelius Westfall for Lot No. 2, which was on the corner of Water and Mulberry Streets. The price was $95, which Landlord Overfield agreed to pay on or before a certain date. He secured the note by a mortgage on the premises and 150 bushels of corn, one barrel of whiskey, one mare and colt, seventy-eight hogs, one cow and calf, one yearling bull, three beds and bed clothes, four bed-steads, two tables, one chest, one spinning-wheel, one corner cupboard, ten split-bottom chairs, three kettles, two dutch ovens, one tea kettle, one pot, one frying pan and all the queensware and glass furniture—surely enough to cover the $95 note. Whether business became poor or whether he found himself in financial straits I do not know; Landlord Overfield failed to ''come to time'' and indulgence was granted him on his appeal and the note and mortgage were at last satisfied.

Another early settler of Troy was William Barbee, commonly known as ''Billy.'' He had been a volunteer under George Rogers Clark and during the expedition against the Indians at Piqua he had seen much of the region where he afterward settled. Barbee was a man of good parts, honest and industrious, and afterward held several offices of honor and trust in the county. He bought a lot on Market

MIAMI COUNTY COURT HOUSE

CITY BUILDING, TROY

TROY CLUB, TROY

OLD COURT HOUSE

Street for sixty-five dollars. He became soon after a land owner, for he married a young lady who owned eighty acres of good land while he himself owned about as much. He embarked in the blacksmith trade and shod many horses during the War of 1812. There was a good deal of money in blacksmithing just at this time and Barbee kept everlastingly at it. He went into the dry-goods business, but found it a losing venture when the sheriff seized on the stock. This failure, however, did not discourage Barbee. He began to buy cattle, which he drove to Chicago and with considerable profit. In course of time he amassed a good deal of money and he is said to have been worth a quarter of a million at the time of his death. Barbee was whole-souled and generous to a fault and no alms seeker ever turned from his door unsatisfied.

Another early citizen of Troy was "Squire" Brown, who crossed the river from Staunton and opened a saddlery. He was a good saddler and in his shop he dispensed law as a justice of the peace. He was one of the first postmasters of Troy. Brown took several apprentices who afterward became prominent citizens. Henry Culbertson was one of these and Isaac Peck another. Nearly every person who resided in Troy at this time had a trade. There were shops of every description and stores were springing up on every street.

Joseph Culbertson had come to Troy in 1808. He was a poor boy, but he brought to Troy a trade which flourished from the first. He was a hatter and it was not long till Culbertson's hats found a ready market beyond the confines of the town. At the corner of Water and Clay Streets a plain frame house was occupied by William Brown, who started a carpenter shop in conjunction with John Wallace. Wallace was fond of his toddy and lost out in his intercourse with it, but his partner Brown, who was more abstemious, became a prominent citizen and at one time filled the office of County Treasurer.

Among the first doctors in Troy was De Joncourt. He was of French extraction and had his office on the corner opposite the Wallace and Brown carpenter shop. De Joncourt lanced and "pilled" his patients for some years and gave place to some other disciple of Hippocrates. Doctors were few and far between those days and when they got established in a community they did a good business, for chills and fever prevailed during certain seasons and "blood letting" was considered necessary.

It was not until 1815 that the people of Troy had a house of worship. Mr. Gahagan donated a lot on the west corner of Main and Clay Streets and soon a log church arose on the site. It was a church edifice renowned for its simplicity. No organ pealed forth its sonorous tones, no frescoes adorned the rough walls, no chimes called the people to worship and cushioned pews and paid choirs were unknown. In this first Methodist Church at the county seat worship was conducted for some years, or until Troy had so increased in wealth and population as to demand a larger and better house of worship.

A frame building known as the Clerk's Office was located where the Grunder store now stands. It was a double frame affair, office in front and kitchen in the rear. Later on this official building gave way for a brick affair 12x15 feet square between Mulberry and Walnut. It, small as it was, held about all the offices connected with the town. Cornelius Westfall, who was clerk, had a monopoly on all other offices, for he was town director and master commissioner in chancery, besides taking care of the post office. There is no record showing that Mr. Westfall was not capable of filling a few more offices if they had been thrown in his way. In office holding he was certainly a "Jack-of-all-trades."

In 1830 Joseph Skinner built a large brick house on the southeast corner of Main and Plum Streets. The south end of the building was constructed for a jail with heavy brick walls and sills of black walnut. This building was occupied by the following sheriffs: John Shidler, T. W. Furnas, Joseph Defrees, Stephen Johnston; Joseph Pearson was the first sheriff to occupy the present sheriff's residence.

During the first several decades of Troy's existence there was little to mar the even tenor of its way. In 1842 occurred the famous "Broadford War" or the "Battle of the Broadford" as it was facetiously called. The late Stephen Johnston of Piqua was sheriff at the time, and Hon. Thomas Corwin looked after the welfare of the State of Ohio from the executive's chair at Columbus. The "war" originated in this wise:

Several Trojans, whose names have been lost from the records of fame, conceived the idea of weaning men from the wine cup by preaching a temperance crusade among the rural townships. They may have been good conscientious citizens, but they soon discovered that the ruralites did not need regeneration at that particular time. At several of these temperance meetings the speakers were assailed with all sorts of missiles, especially stale eggs, and this so roused their indignation that they swore out warrants against the offenders, who were arrested and lodged in the old brick jail at Troy.

It was thought for a while that this would end the affair, but soon the mutterings of a storm reached the county seat. The people of the country were rising in their might and it came to be known that mobs were collecting for the purpose of storming the jail and releasing the prisoners. The utmost excitement prevailed in Troy. Sheriff Johnston saw his habitation a heap of ruins and himself probably swinging from a convenient pole and he set about to counteract the revolutionists and maintain the peace and dignity of the county. He promptly called out the militia to help him as a *posse comitatus* to preserve peace, especially in Troy. Forthwith there was a gathering of the clans of war and all peaceful pursuits were for the time being abandoned. Captain Adams and Lieutenant Carson put their company of light infantry in motion and Col. Clarke and Captain E. Y. Barney appeared at the head of their dragoons. Piqua, throwing aside her jealousies for a moment, came to help her sister town. The Piqua squadrons were met by the citizens of Troy and the Lafayette Blues, commanded by Captain Mayo.

At any moment the mob might enter Troy and leave wreck and ruin in its track. Those who had gone to the "seat of war" had left weeping families at home and it was expected that blood would flow in profusion in the streets of Troy. At length some wily strategist who had probably studied the Napoleonic campaigns proposed that the militia take up a position at the Broadford Bridge, where the mob could be intercepted and the battle fought outside the walls of Troy. This proposition was received with delight and forthwith the legions were marched to the Broadford, where they encamped.

Here for two days and nights the utmost vigilance was exercised. Rumor followed rumor thick and fast. The revolutionists, it was asserted, were not far away. Scouts were sent into the woods and the pickets were doubled. The brave militia slept on their arms, some dreaming of the homes they never expected to see again. At last it dawned on the minds on the Miami Spartans that the foe was not coming. Perhaps they had overawed him with their formidable preparations for his reception and at last the recall was sounded and the Broadford army broke camp and marched back to Troy. It presented a splendid appearance and doubtless

"'Twere worth ten years of peaceful life
One glance at their array."

As the valiant soldiers returned to the bosoms of their families from the bloodless campaign they could exclaim triumphantly—

"We routed them, we scouted them
Nor lost a single man."

Such was the "Broadford War," for a long time celebrated in the annals of the county, and many believed that Sheriff Johnston's promptness not only saved the county buildings but probably prevented the streets of Troy from being deluged in blood.

The coming of the canal and the railroad to Troy were events of supreme importance to it. The former was finished to the town in 1837 and at once there was great rejoicing. The county seat was thus placed in touch with the outside world and Troy markets were greatly benefited. About this time produce in Troy was commanding the following prices: Flour, per barrel $2.62; wheat, 37½ cents; bacon, per pound 3½ cents; chickens, per dozen 50 cents; eggs, 3 cents; butter, 6¼ cents; sugar, 6¼ cents; tallow, 6¼ cents. The finishing of the canal permitted the shipping of all kinds of farm produce from Troy and the farmer took advantage of it. In fact the canal was found inadequate for the shipping of grain and the railroad was acknowledged to be the only salvation for the town. In 1850 the first train on the C. H. & D. ran from Dayton to Troy. It was a day long to be remembered by all who inhabited the town and the surrounding country. A large crowd came to "see the fun" as they expressed it, but it was a different kind of fun from what they expected.

The cars were old flat ones with railing around the sides to keep the people from falling off. The crowd that came from Dayton was composed of a rough set of men. They had imbibed pretty freely before leaving the Gem City and by the time the train reached Troy they were ready for anything and some were spoiling for a fight. They went over town in a boisterous manner and made themselves obnoxious to everybody. By the time they were ready to start back to Dayton they were picking up stones and throwing them at the cars. When finally they got on board they began throwing stones into the crowd composed of men, women and children who had come down to the track to see them off. This caused a stampede on a part of the lookers-on, but the men in the crowd returned the volley of stones with interest and things looked serious for a time. At last the whistle blew and the cars pushed away from the indignant Trojans. Such was the exciting scenes attendant upon the arrival and departure of the first steam cars that entered Troy.

The opening of the canal was also attended with more or less excitement. Soon after the water was let into the long basin a party of Troy people hired a packet and took a ride down the canal to where it crossed the river about half way between Troy and Dayton. A Mr. Crumpacker steered the boat and as it was entering the lock he steered it into a waste-way and was compelled to back out again. The occupants on the boat became frightened, thinking they were going over the waste-way. There was much excitement on board and no little screaming on the part of the women passengers; but finally the boat was righted and taken safely through the lock. At that time there was but one house in Tippecanoe and it was owned by John Clark, who was proprietor of nearly all the land in sight.

Troy was visited by a cholera scourge about 1850. The dread disease also visited other parts of the county and the death rate rose rapidly. The whole town was in a state of alarm, for no one knew when he might be attacked and it was some time before the epidemic was stayed and the inhabitants got relief.

The first Court of Common Pleas held its November session up stairs at Mr. Overfields, commencing November 5th, 1808. Troy was then a small place and had recently been made the county seat. There were as yet no newspapers in the town. As has been mentioned, Overfield kept tavern and his establishment contained a bar, as did all the taverns at that early day. The late John T. Tullis, one of the pioneer residents of Troy, in his interesting reminiscences has this to say of the time of which we write:

"There was sometimes a little friction in running a court and bar-room as near neighbors, but Judge Dunlavy was prompt and allowed no annoyance. On one occasion, George Kerr, a wealthy farmer of good repute and ex-Governor Arthur St. Clair were discussing the quality of Mr. Overfield's beverage, when, getting much interested, they raised their voices an octave above the key note. The Judge sent his respects to the gentlemen by Mr. Dye, requesting an interview in the court room. When they came in Judge said: 'Gentlemen, the court assesses a fine of two dollars each for contempt.' Mr. Kerr replied: 'It bears me in mind that you might as well say ten.' 'Well, I say ten,' the Judge answered, turning to his associate on the bench, 'What do you say, Mr. Barbee?' 'I say ten for Mr. Kerr,' said Judge Barbee, 'and ten for the Governor.' They put down the dust and Mr. Kerr, being a little excited, retorted: 'Judge Dunlavy, I knew you when you were so poor you had to lie in bed until your wife washed your breeches.' Though it was very convenient to have the court so near a watering place where there was plenty of good liquor, yet it was not always held there, but in the early days of the county it was held wherever the judges happened to be."

For a time the court room at Troy was occupied by the Presbyterians for religious purposes; the same building was not very secure. Joseph Beedle and some of his friends were incarcerated for a few days for uncovering Jimmy Mackey's house and happening to want water, he slipped a log, a part of the floor between the two stories, and went up, bucket in hand, to the well to fill his bucket. Before the family could give the alarm he made his ingress through the same aperture through which he had made his egress. This feat admonished the county functionaries that the jail was not a safe deposit; so Joseph Skinner was set to work about 1828-30 (the date is uncertain) to build a strong jail and a two-story brick house for the jailer on the same lot, which answered a good purpose until the new stone jail was built.

Merchandizing in Troy about 1828 was yet in its infancy. The only newspaper then published at the county-seat was the *Miami Reporter,* published by Micaiah Fairfield. Among the Troy merchants at this period were Mayo & Bosson, and William Barbee. Barbee had the largest establishment and consequently the best trade. He was a good patron of the advertising columns of the *Reporter.* He made annual trips to New York to select his stock and upon his return he always announced his selection for the benefit of the public. Some of the goods sold in the stores at that time have long since gone out of date, as the following inventory of Mr. Barbee's stock will show: ''Superfine Blue steel mixed cloths, satinets, bang-up-cord, Rowen Casimere; black lasting, domestic plaids and stripes, Ticking, checks, Sheeting and skirting, cambric, Jackonet, books, hair-cord, Jubilee muslin, calico; Ginghams, crape robes, satin Levantine, blue and black Gros de Nap; linen and cotton laces, silk valencia and Swandown Vestings, Leghorn and straw bonnets, Prunella and Morocco shoes, silk and cotton shawls and handkerchiefs,'' etc., etc. The stores also kept groceries, hardware and liquors.

At this time T. W. Furnas was sheriff of the county and Daniel Grosvenor, auditor. It was at the time when the famous Jackson-Adams campaign was at its height and Troy was a center for the foment. Some of her citizens headed by John Wiley and Dr. Asa Coleman met at the house of Col. Humbert in Troy, on October 11, 1829, and organized what might be called a vigilance committee in the interest of John Quincy Adams. They issued a proclamation addressed to the ''Friends of Order and Good Government,'' in which they called upon every friend of Adams to exert himself for their candidate. ''Do, then,'' the call said, ''for the sake of that liberty which you now enjoy and which you will be glad to leave as the most valuable legacy to your children, turn out on the day of election and secure it while it is yet in your power. A little negligence on your part may prove fatal to liberty with all its concomitant blessings.'' The committee on the part of Concord Township, including Troy, consisted of John G. Telford, William I. Thomas, Thomas Barbour, William Tullis, David Tullis, Daniel Grosvenor, Lewis Humbert, James Knight and Asa Coleman. In this year Concord gave a large majority for Allen Trumble for Governor of Ohio.

It would seem that some of the citizens of Troy as early as 1828 had to put up with a good many trifling employees. It was the day of apprenticeship and when the young apprentices did not find things to their liking they ''stayed not upon the order of their going,'' but took leg bail and made themselves scarce. Henry W. Culbertson, who was a saddler at the time, advertised for one of his runaway hands in the following amusing manner:

ONE-FOURTH OF A CENT REWARD.

"Ran away from the subscriber an indented apprentice to the saddling business by the name of James Gibbs, said boy about 15 years old, dark complexion, has large black eyes and black hair, very talkative and a most intolerable liar. Whoever will return said boy to me in Troy, Miami County, shall receive the above reward, but no thanks. H. W. CULBERTSON."

The result of this advertisement, if any, is not on record, but it is not likely that the subscriber was ever called upon to pay the liberal reward offered.

From the reminiscences of Charles N. Burns I cull the following data concerning the appearance of the County Seat about the year 1853.

"The schoolhouse was new, as was also the Morris House (now Hotel Troy). Everything else was or seemed to be old. West Main Street beyond Elm, was in the future and the "plank road" began near that point. Main Street east of the railroad had but few houses, Market Street south of the canal soon become a country road, and excepting at Main and Market, I think there were but two other bridges crossing the canal—at Union (the Dayton Road) and the Lover's, beginning at the corner of Oxford and Franklin and running on to between George Streets and the Hafer grocery and meeting the McKaig Avenue, then a lane.

"The mill at the lock on Main Street was owned and run by Hanson Mayo. The entire square west of the school house was vacant 'commons.' At the corner of Water and Oxford were Stockton's carriage and smith shops. The Galt House (now Masonic Temple) was then as now, except the frame addition on the west. 'Lawyer's Row' was then one office used by Judge Pearson. 'The Railroad House,' George Simmons, proprietor, was a two-story brick where Steil's Store is now, on the north corner of Main and Public Square. Old frame shells occupied space bordering the square on Market Street, both sides except the Morris House; south of the Square were also frame shells. Franklin Street ended at Union. East of that and south of the canal was 'country' and west of the canal 'swamp.' There were very few stone walks in town and those in front of the stores principally. Mr. Edwards started the planting of trees on the walks.

"Little Henry Culbertson was the principal dry goods man and Evans & Elliott kept a dry goods store in the corner of the Galt House. Joe Youart kept a dry goods store where the Troy National Bank is now and on a big sign in front were painted in large letters these words: 'Joe Youart, Family Grocery, Loafers' Retreat, Politics, Religion and the Fine Arts discussed at all hours.'

"The town was dark at night except when the moon shone. There were neither gas nor oil lamps. In fact, I believe, that most of the people used either tallow candles, lard oil or camphene in their homes. There was no manufactory in Troy then, except a shop or two for making plows, wagons and buggies for the local trade, and I believe a flax mill above the dam." In later years John Kelly of Troy invented the first corn planter and put it on the market. This was about 1875.

The municipal government of Troy dates from among the early days of its existence. It is to be regretted that no list of its mayors prior to 1840 is obtainable. Since that time to the present the list of

TROY ELECTRIC WORKS, TROY

PLANT OF THE HOBART ELECTRIC MFG. CO., TROY

ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH, TROY

FIRST NATIONAL BANK, TROY

OLD GAULT HOUSE, TROY

MASONIC TEMPLE, TROY

mayors is as follows: William B. Johnson, George D. Burgess, Joseph Pearson, Henry S. Mayo, S. L. Bayless, Harvey G. Sellers, S. O. Binkley, Charles Morris, John T. Somerville, H. W. Culbertson, H. J. Pettit, W. F. Ross, N. C. Clyde, W. D. Hughes, M. W. Hayes, James Knight, G. T. Thomas, George S. Long, J. F. McCaskey, M. K. Gantz, T. M. Campbell, A. L. McKinney, John W. Morris, J. O. Davis, Thomas B. Kyle.

Troy was the first place in the county to inaugurate a good system of public schools. The population of Concord Township in 1804 consisted of but three families. Samuel Kyle taught the first school in Troy in 1813. The log schoolhouse occupied the corner of Market and Water Streets. He rarely had more than twelve pupils and the schoolhouse and its surroundings were quite primitive. John G. Clarke presided over the Troy public schools in 1816 and he had a unique way of reaching the hearts, to say nothing of the brains of his scholars. Clarke did not live in local option days, so he gave his pupils whiskey, diluted with sugar and water, and occasionally he had some laughable experiences with his classes. In 1826 Micajah Fairfield taught in Troy, then Uriah Fordyce, Miss Mary Barney, George D. Burgess, afterward judge of the Court of Common Pleas; Robert McCurdy and Irving Giles. Some of the other early school masters of Troy were B. F. Powers, G. A. Murray, E. P. Coles, Minor W. Fairfield. The first board of education consisted of Charles Morris, Rev. Daniel Rice, B. F. Powers, William B. Johnson, Zachariah Riley and Henry S. Mayo. Salaries were small in the early days of Troy's school system. The first roster of her public educators received the following yearly pay: N. W. Edwards, $800, Jonathan Arnott, $400, Arnold Finner, $400, Miss Susan Linn, $300, Miss Catherine Gaylor, $225, Frances Rice, $225, Miss Louise Thorne, $200, Miss Bishoprick, $200. In course of time the first public school buildings gave way for better ones; as the school population increased others still more costly and commodious were erected and these supply the city's educational wants at the present day. The public schools of Troy will be treated more at length in the Educational Chapter.

The churches of the County Seat, to be mentioned more at length hereafter, have kept pace with the needs of the hour, having developed from the primitive tabernacle into the splendid religious edifices that house her present day worshippers. The Methodist Church of Troy was organized in 1815, the Episcopalian in 1831, the Christian in 1856, the Presbyterian in 1818, the German Lutheran in 1841, the Baptist in 1834. All these churches are an honor to the various denominations. The Catholic Church came long after the others, but it is today one of the most progressive churches in the city.

From the time of Cornelius Westfall, the first postmaster of Troy, the mail services of the county seat has shown rapid progression. In early days this service was slow and laborious, but the postal needs of the people were not great. One post office building has followed another until now the service is well housed in the Odd Fellows' Temple. There have been no defalcations in the Troy post office; the postmasters have been faithful and diligent and worthy of the important trusts imposed upon them. It is a matter of interest that John W. Morris still treasures a government draft for one penny, which was sent him when he presented his final accounting as postmaster. Following is a complete list of the postmasters of Troy: Cornelius Westfall, W. I. Thomas, John G. Telford, Levi Hart, John T. Tullis, Joseph Pearson, Henry J. Pettit, John Block, Robert M. Barbour, Thomas B. Rose, George W. Bull, Samuel McKee, Harriet E. Drury, John H. Drury, Frank M. Sterrett, John W. Morris, N. C. Clyde, J. W. Davis, S. D. Frank, Walter M. Kyle, Elva A. Jackson.

The present roster of the post office, which is one of the best conducted in the state, is as follows: Postmaster—E. A. Jackson; Clerks—T. J. Gibbs, R. H. Widner, George W. Humphreys, J. C. Fullerton, W. J. Kingham, Miss Ella Warner; City carriers—Harry G. Hollis, No. 1; J. W. Robbins, No. 2; Noah A. Ellet, No. 3; Benjamin F. Robbins, No. 4; Arthur May, No. 5; Rural carriers—James C. Stratton, No. 1; Charles E. Buckels, No. 2; Calvin Kerns, No. 3; Elijah E. Moore, No. 4; Harry H. Stewart, No. 5; Edmund S. Whitmore, No. 6; Charles W. Penrod, No. 7.

The city government, at the head of which is Mayor Thomas Barton Kyle, has the following efficient roster: President of council—J. B. McCoole; auditor—Charles Rannells; treasurer—John K. DeFrees; solicitor—T. M. Campbell; members of council—C. W. Douglas, C. G. Snook, S. D. Frank, John Laufer, C. H. Kramer, George Braunschweiger, Clarence J. Marr; Board of Public Service—John M. McLain, R. H. Southerland, Jr., A. E. Childs; Board of Public Safety—L. H. McConnell, M. K. Gantz; Board of Review—John Henne, William Stephey, C. L. Yost; Trustees of Sinking Fund and Board of Tax Commissioners—W. E. Boyer, John Hall, D. W. Smith, C. L. Yost; Board of Education—T. B. Kyle, A. F. Broomhall, W. E. Boyer, R. W. Crofoot, Horace Allen, E. W. Maier; Chief of Police—John Headly; chief of Fire Department—Amos Hetzler; City engineer—H. J. Walker. The Board of Health is in the hands of the Board of Public Service and the Public Library is controlled by the Board of Education.

It is the intention to treat the newspapers, the banks, parochial schools and other institutions of the City of Troy under separate headings, to which the reader is referred.

On the 16th of June, 1885, the corner stone of the magnificent new court house which graces one of the squares of Troy was laid with appropriate ceremonies. The erection of this Temple of Justice forever put an end to the ''County Seat War'' which originated almost a century ago.

With blare of brass bands, march of military and civic orders, profuse decorations of bunting and National colors, and display of fireworks, the 16th of July, 1885, passed into history and marked a memorable day in the annals of Miami County.

There was laid with impressive ceremonies, and amidst a scene never before witnessed in this part of Ohio, the corner stone of a magnificent new court house, which will mark the progress and development of the Twelfth County in Ohio, and stand for the next century as a monument to the intelligence and public spirit of the taxpayers of today. The generations who come after us will praise the wisdom which selected so beautiful a site for the county's capitol, and builded upon it an edifice in harmony with the population, wealth and intelligence of Miami County in 1885. Those who were active to secure the new court house will soon pass away; those instrumental in its location will die and be forgotten, but the beautiful building will stand for ages, and a county with a population of a hundred thousand, with a tax duplicate of more than a hundred million, will transact its official business in the building erected in 1885.

The day was all that could have been expected as to weather in mid-summer, and as pleasant as could have been wished for. A delightful and much needed rain the night before put the streets in splendid condition, and cleared the atmosphere. The sun appeared brightly Thursday morning as though the Ruler of the Universe were smiling upon the consummation of a glorious project. By afternoon it grew warm, decidedly warm, but all during the day there was a delightful air, and much of the time a refreshing breeze. The crowd began to come early. Before nine o'clock the side streets were full of vehicles, and the walks filled with happy, joyous faces.

The escort committee from the Grand Army of the Republic, Knights Templars, Uniform Rank Knights of Pythias, and Odd Fellows, headed by the G. A. R. Band, marched to the I. B. and W. Railway to meet the delegations from Hollingsburg, Greenville, Union City Arcanum and other western points, several car loads of humanity being unloaded at this place.

The north bound C. H. & D. train brought the Tipp Fire Department in uniform, visiting delegations from Tipp, Dayton, Miamisburg and Hamilton; the southbound train brought the Piqua division Uniform Rank Knights of Pythias with Band, the Sidney and Kirkwood bands and a large crowd of people, and the noon train on the I. B. & W. unloaded the greater portion of the inhabitants of the eastern part of the county, and most of Clark living in the neighborhood of New Carlisle.

Champaign County from the neighborhood of Addison was here in force and the G. A. R. Post of that town brought along their large flag, which was suspended across Main Street.

The procession formed at about 1:30 o'clock and moved in the line announced by program, through the principal streets and entered the court house enclosure at the west entrance. A platform had been erected at the northeast corner of the building and this was occupied by prominent Masons and members of the press.

The procession was admitted to have been one of the finest ever witnessed in this part of Ohio. The ceremonies preparatory to performing the act of formally laying the corner stone began with music. Following this Rev. Mr. VanCleve made a short but impressive prayer. The grand treasurer, Jos. Bains, then placed the copper box filled with articles in the mortice of the corner stone, and the ceremony of "leveling," "plumbing" and "squaring," sprinkling upon it wheat, wine and oil was conducted by Right Worshipful Grand Master J. M. Goodspeed.

The orator of the day was the late Captain Elihu S. Williams, who delivered an oration replete with eloquence and historical data, which evinced a vast amount of research. In summing up the history of the county Captain Williams closed with the following peroration:

> "In 1807 Miami County had but little over one thousand inhabitants. Today she has forty thousand.
>
> "In 1807 she cast 208 votes; to-day she can cast 10,000 votes, and her property returned for taxation reaches in round numbers twenty-four millions of dollars.
>
> "We have a Nation of fifty-five millions of people and we hold within the limits of our vast domain the line of perpetual snow and the home of perpetual summer.
>
> "We stand in the front rank among the nations of the earth in wealth and power, and around our magnificent heritage of land and sea is drawn the 'sacred circle of liberty which the demon of slavery will never dare to cross.'
>
> "I thank God that I am an American citizen, a resident of Ohio, and that I live in Miami County—a county in which no home is out of sight of a school house nor out of hearing of a church bell. Her farmers stand among the first of the state in wealth and intelligence. Her merchants stand high in integrity and honesty. Her clergy are noted for their pure lives and zeal in the cause of their Lord and Master. Her courts stand among the first for judicial knowledge and legal ability. Her lawyers do not hesitate to enter the legal arena and throw down the glove of challenge to the first and foremost of the State.
>
> "Then let this court house be built upon the foundation the corner stone of which we this day plant and let it rise in its architectural beauty as a sign and a symbol that the protecting arm of the law is around every home, and that justice like the sunshine and the rain of Heaven falls alike upon the rich and the poor, without regard to race or color. 'No man is too high for its reach and no man is too low for its grasp.' A shield of protection for the innocent, and a swift, strong arm of punishment for the guilty."

This splendid building dedicated to justice cost $400,000 and is one of the most imposing court houses in the United States. It is massive in structure and houses all the county offices. That it will long stand as a monument to the progress made by the county during the first hundred years of its existence goes without saying.

The Troy Masonic Temple Company was incorporated July 31, 1906. Its capital stock is $40,000 divided into sixteen hundred shares of twenty-five dollars each. The Temple was completed in 1908 and dedicated with imposing ceremonies December 29, of the same year. The structure is one of the finest in the state dedicated to fraternal purposes. The Temple Company is officered as follows: E. M. Faulkner, president, H. A. Cosley, secretary, F. W. Steil, treasurer. The directors are H. A. Cosley, E. M. Faulkner, C. A. Hartley, T. B. Kyle, L. H. McConnell, F. W. Steil and Walter Duer.

CHAPTER IX.

PIQUA, THE BORDER CITY

Origin of the City—Its Historic Associations—An Indian Legend—Piqua Formerly Called Washington—Coming of Job Gard—Reminiscences of Joseph Hilliard—Piqua a Place of Rendezvous in the War of 1812—Land Office Established in 1819—Piqua Becomes a Town in 1843—First Election Under the Charter—Early Mayors—Amusing Ordinances—Population in 1826—The Act of Incorporation—The Ewing Tavern—Early Merchants and Leading Citizens—Piqua Benefited by the Canal—Coming of the Railroad—The Hydraulic Canal—Business Statistics—The Town Hall—The John Vail Academy—Early Schools—Educational Progress—Religious Institutions—Relics of the Mound Builders—Military Spirit of 1861-65—Soldiers' Aid Societies—War Memorials—Postmasters—Fire Department—City Government.

The City of Piqua, familiarly called the Border City, is coexistent with the formation of the county. It has a history peculiarly its own. Its name rests upon a tradition which antedates the coming of the white man into this locality. Gen. George Rogers Clark, the ranger general of the Revolution, destroyed the Mad River Indian towns, inhabited at the time by the Shawnees and kindred tribes. This act on the part of Clark forced the red men farther north and they established themselves at Upper Piqua—Pickawillany, as it was then known in border history.

We are told that "Piqua" in the Shawnee tongue signifies "ashes" and the legend is that many years before the foot of the first adventurous pale face disturbed the leaves of the Miami forests, the Indians captured a prisoner in one of their inter-tribal wars. The prisoner, according to the custom of the savages, was burned at the stake with all the inhuman ceremonies attending such brutality. The legend further avers that when the body was reduced to ashes and the victors were contemplating it, a full-grown man rose slowly from the white heap and stood before the astonished warriors. Electrified and dumbfounded at this, the Indians set up the cry of "Otatha-he-wagh-piqua!" which means "He comes out of the ashes." Piqua, being the site of a Shawnee town, received the name it now bears from the legend of the tortured captive. The late George C. Johnston, who was for some years a Shawnee by adoption, and who was perfectly familiar with the language of that tribe, is the authority for this bit of legendary history. Therefore,

> "Should you ask me when these legends,
> Whence these legends and traditions,
> I would answer, I would tell you,
> From the campfires of the Shawnees."

On an old map of the Miami Country, made in 1815, the present city of Piqua is designated as Washington, while Piqua, the Indian town, is located by the cartographer farther north. The name of Washington was retained for a number of years. In Drake's book (1815) is to be found the following allusion to it: "Washington is a village of this (Miami) County. It lies eight miles above Troy, on the same side of the river, on the site of an old Indian settlement. The plain on which it stands is less than a mile from the river and terminates in wet ground, similar to that in the rear of Troy. Timber for building is convenient and the bed of the river near the village affords good limestone in an abundance. The excellent mill sites at this place are already improved to some extent. There is a postoffice which receives a weekly mail from Cincinnati. It was laid out by Messrs. Brandon and Manning in 1809 and has been nearly ever since in competition with Troy for the county seat of Justice."

It would seem from the above description of Piqua published nearly a century ago that even then the pleasant rivalry which exists today between it and Troy was fostered and kept warm by agitation.

In 1798, nine years before Brandon's survey of Piqua, Job Gard, who had served under "Mad Anthony Wayne," settled on the site of Piqua. He had land about the "Bend," which ground had been cultivated by the Indians in their primitive way. Gard sold some of his improved land to John Manning, which is now Harrison Street in Piqua. Settlers began to flock to the little settlement in considerable numbers. Fear of Indian uprisings forced the whites to group their cabins for mutual protection. Hand mills and hominy mortars came into vogue and before long the pioneer store opened for business where are found today the fine mercantile blocks that accentuate the Border City's prosperity. Piqua was well located and grew as the years slipped by.

John Manning and Mathew Caldwell entered the land where Piqua now stands and it was formally surveyed by Armstrong Brandon in 1807. At this time there were but seven houses in Piqua, or Washington as it was then called. These first homes were occupied by John Manning, Edward Manning, Alexander Ewing, Benjamin Leavell, Arthur Brandon, Nathaniel Whitcomb and Joseph Porquette. These houses stood on Water and Main Streets. From some cause or other the inhabitants became dissatisfied with the name of the town, not from any disrespect to the illustrious citizen for whom it had been named, and in 1816 they petitioned the legislature to give them back the old Indian name of Piqua, in which they succeeded. Henceforth the town became known as Piqua though the township kept the appellation dropped by the settlement.

If one is curious to know the manners and customs of the first families of Piqua he is referred to the interesting reminiscences of Joseph Hilliard, one of the members. As Mr. Hilliard's account is not accessible to the general reader I will be pardoned for making a few extracts.

"The common dress of the young men," says the narrator, "consisted of hunting shirts made of buckskin and cut in notches in such a way as to make ornamental fringes, and pantaloons of the same material. Instead of hats they wore fur caps of their own manufacture and made from the skin of fox or raccoon and adorned with the tail of the animal for a pendant. Boots and shoes were little worn, buckskin moccasins being worn instead. When fine shoes were worn they were of a style which the young ladies and gentlemen of the present day would scarcely know to what use they could be applied. They were much longer than the foot and terminated in a sharp point which of course turned up. Young ladies' dresses were made of calico or chintz, but principally of calico. Their ordinary dresses were made of striped linsey and very often they had no other kind. There were no hoops in those days, our log cabins scarcely affording sufficient room for the modern style of female dress.

"Such an article as a cooking stove was unknown in early Piqua, the wide chimneys affording sufficient space for all cooking purposes. We kept time without a clock and were as regular in our habits as now. Our floors were made of puncheons split out of the log and sometimes hewed. For chairs we used benches from three to six feet long and small three-legged stools which served all necessary purposes for comfort and convenience. Our dishes consisted of bowls and trays made of pewter or wood; no china or Liverpool ware being then in use. All our furniture was plain and common and no one style was covered by a patent."

It has been said that much of the early history of Piqua is obscured by tradition. It is true that tradition is unreliable, but the written reminiscences of the early settlers, the men who broke up the forests and led the vanguard of civilization, are reliable and should be cherished and preserved. The growth of Piqua kept pace with the years. For a long time the first inhabitants suffered from what the present generation would term "insurmountable difficulties."

There were no matches; tinder, flint and steel being used to obtain a light; the fire was buried at night as a matter of economy, the household light was a tallow dip and fingers were used as snuffers; sugar was made from the tree, corn was prepared for food by boiling it with a bag of hard wood ashes to soften and hull it. The married women wore caps and all females carried "reticules," which were sometimes adorned with cucumber or muskmelon seeds to "set them off." Every Saturday night the young Piquads greased their shoes with tallow to look well for Sunday. When they needed blacking soot was taken from the under side of the kettle and mixed with water for the purpose. When a person died they stopped the clock, covered the looking glass with a towel and turned it to the wall until after the funeral.

The foregoing are a few of the "fashions and manners" which prevailed when Piqua was young. When the place had grown to fair dimensions some of these were superseded by others more in keeping with the changed times.

The growing town was considerably helped by the War of 1812. This war which, to a certain extent, retarded the growth of Troy, operated differently for Piqua. Col. John Johnston got together a large body of Indians upon his farm and kept them neutral. Piqua became a place of rendezvous during the war. Provisions were collected there and from there transported north. This brought a good deal of business to the town.

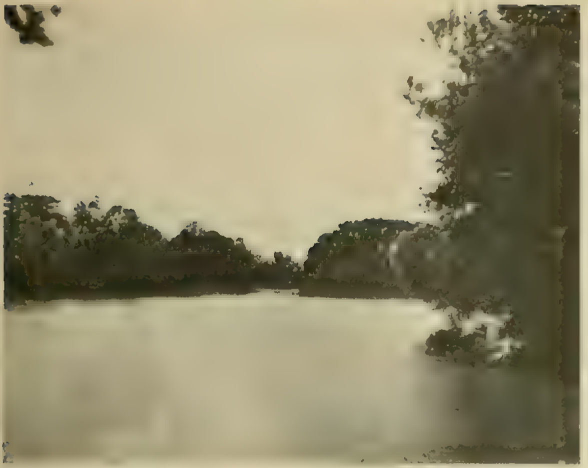
An Indian agency was established at Piqua. Col. Johnston handled large amounts of goods, money and supplies; he restricted the trade to Piqua. While there is no sign of graft during those days, it is a matter of record that the Colonel did not neglect his relatives.

In 1819 Piqua was still further benefited by the establishment of a land office. The first register of the land office I have any account of was Col. T. B. Van Horne, who became one of Piqua's foremost citizens. He was a soldier by profession. Being stationed at Detroit in 1811, he and Gen. Lewis Cass tried to persuade Hull to fight and not surrender. Van Horne was a man who had not a drop of cowardly blood in his veins. When the aged poltroon of the time surrendered Detroit to the enemy Van Horne was one of the officers who broke their swords rather than undergo the humiliation of turning them over to the British. Cass was another officer who followed Van Horne's example.

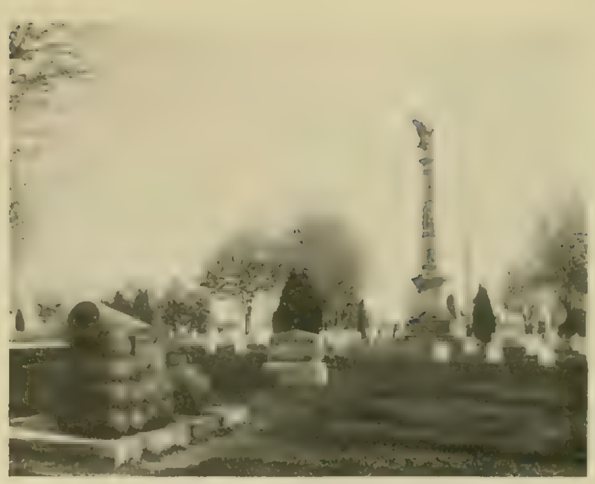
Piqua was raised from a village to the dignity of a town in 1843. This charter was passed by the House and Senate of the General Assembly and became a law, receiving the signatures of John Chaney, speaker of the House, and James S. Farren, speaker of the Senate, March 13, 1843. Some odd features are connected with this charter. It made the councilmen the judges of elections and the recorder the clerk of the same. Any person refusing to serve when elected was subject to a fine of two dollars. The mayor, recorder and marshal were required to give bond in an amount satisfactory to the council, which body had the authority to appoint a collector and treasurer for terms of one year.

The first election under the new charter was held the following April. William R. Barrington was chosen mayor. He was a newspaper man. He edited the first newspaper printed in Piqua, the *Piqua Gazette*, which he sold in 1837. At the first election F. R. Cole was chosen town recorder. For the next seven years the mayors of Piqua were William R. Barrington, G. B. Frye, J. P. Williamson, J. W. Horton, S. S. McKinney, Jos. C. Horton, Stephen Johnston. The recorders during the same period were as follows: F. R. Cole, J. A. Truitt, William Elliott, M. H. Jones. Among the later mayors of Piqua one finds the names of Harvey Clark, Samuel Garvey, W. W. V. Buchanan, George Detmer, George A. Brooks, John C. Geyer, E. M. Wilbee, J. Ward Keyt, J. E. Smith, L. C. Cron, and J. C. Hughes. The latter is the present efficient mayor of the city.

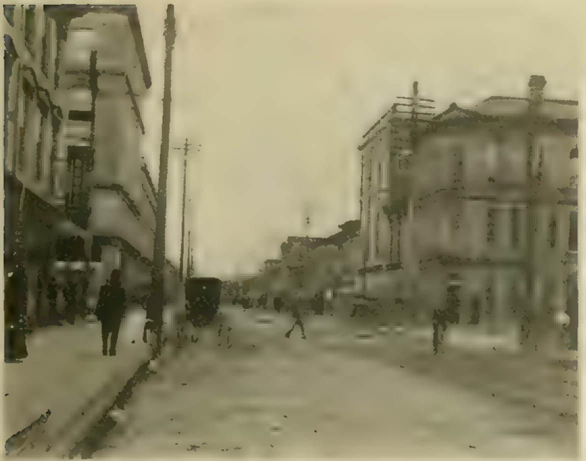
Some of the early ordinances that were placed on the official records of Piqua are decidedly amusing as viewed at this day. One of the first provided for a license of from $5 to $20 per day for showmen. Another which was adopted in March, 1845, prescribes the manner in which the town hall might be used by the public. When it was designed to use the building for any purpose it was necessary to interview the marshal, who was both custodian and janitor. This high functionary had the authority under the ordinance to allow several denominations of Christians to use the hall for religious purposes. But the same denomination could not occupy it twice in the same month. The hall might also be



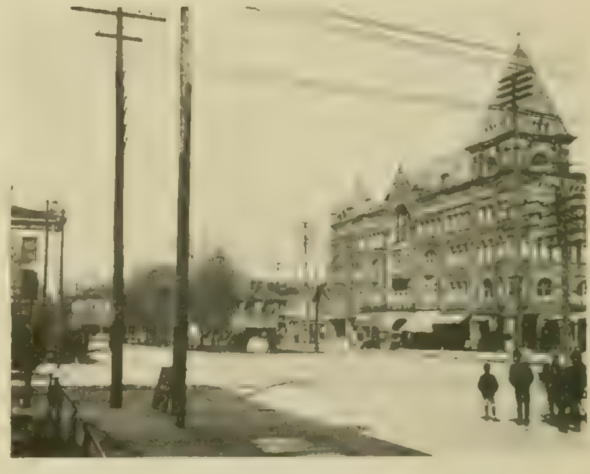
SITE OF FORT PIQUA—CONFLUENCE OF MIAMI AND LORAMIE RIVERS
(Cross Shows Site of Fort)



SOLDIERS' MONUMENT
Forrest Hill Cemetery, Piqua

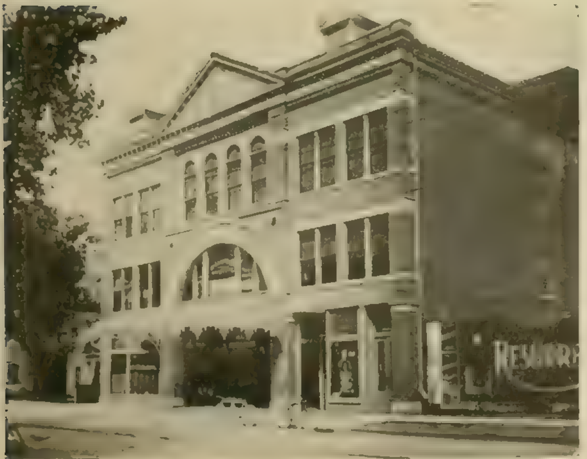


MAIN STREET, PIQUA
Looking North from Ash

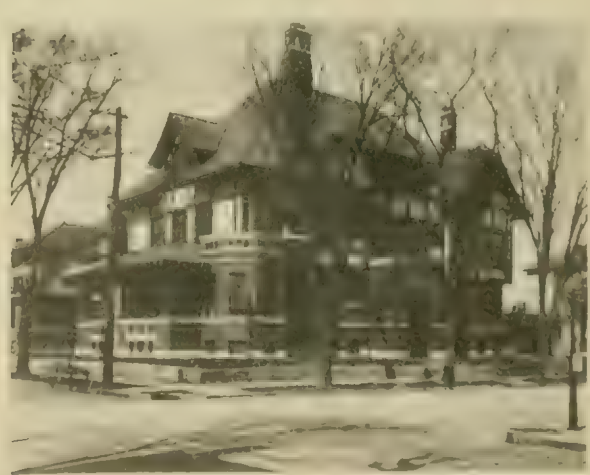


HIGH STREET, PIQUA
Looking West from Hotel Plaza

(5)



MAY'S OPERA HOUSE, PIQUA



PIQUA CLUB, PIQUA

(4)

used by political parties, but some person had to be responsible to the marshal in case of any damages arising to the building from a too free discussion of political opinions. In those days, and for some time later, something more emphatic than arguments often took place at conventions held in this county and broken chairs, to say nothing of broken heads, sometimes resulted. Hence the wisdom of having some responsible person become surety for the safety of the town hall during political meetings.

In 1826 an enumeration of Piqua was taken by William R. Barrington. It was found to have 450 inhabitants included in seventy-five families, an average of six to the family. The year before Piqua's population was 248, while Troy's was 283. At the Barrington census there were no colored people in Piqua.

The city was incorporated in 1823, at which time an act of incorporation was granted by the General Assembly in which it was stated that "the householders in the town of Piqua in the county of Miami having complied with the provisions of the act of the General Assembly entitled: 'An Act to provide for incorporation of towns' and being filed in the office of the secretary of state, the documents required by the above recited act, etc." This act of incorporation, which is now in the possession of Mr. John A. Raynor of Piqua, is signed by Jeremiah McLene, secretary of state, and has affixed to it the old seal of Ohio. In this important paper Piqua is described as follows:

> "Situated on the western bank of the Great Miami River, and was originally laid out by John Manning and Mathew Caldwell and includes a part of Fractional Sections 17 and 18 in Township No. 6 east First Meridian, comprising one hundred and one lots and containing in said original plat fifty-two acres, etc. The whole town as contained and represented by said plats is bounded by the Great Miami River on the North, by the lands of Charles Murry and Manning on the east, and by the lands of John Campbell, Mathew Caldwell and John Kyte on the west, which said town was called Washington, but afterwards by an act of the Legislature of this state changed to Piqua, by which name it is now known and called."

Grown from its first inception in the wilderness of the Miami, Piqua had reached the dignity of an incorporated town. It had previously become a place of some importance. From its first dealings with the Indians trade had gradually turned into more profitable channels. The Ewings were the first traders or merchants of Piqua. They bartered largely with the Indians. In 1809 the famous Ewing tavern stood on Main Street. For some time it was the commercial center of Piqua. It was the first place sought by the new comer and the last one where he "wet his whistle" ere he bade adieu to the town. If a full record of the days and nights spent by the guests of this old hostelry could be found, an interesting chapter could be added to this work. Ewing did a good business for the time, though it is said that now and then some guest left him in the lurch and went his way, leaving behind the memories of an unpaid bill which the landlord charged against the profit and loss page in his ledger.

In 1812 an Irishman named Nicholas Greenham dropped into Piqua. He had the odors of the "ould sod" upon him. Trade and barter looked out of his eyes and he proceeded to set up the first country store in the Border City. He rented a room in Ewing's tavern and what escaped the eye of this son of Erin is not worthy of record. He gathered in all sorts of country produce, for which he exchanged the contents of his shelves and some things that were not kept in sight. The sharp

Nicolas kept in full view the whiskey bottle and a pitcher of water and every customer prospective and actual was invited to "help himself" without stint, for whiskey was cheap those days and proverbially good. More than one Indian smacked his lips over the Irish merchant's bottle and when the said redskin became somewhat mellow and thought the world his own, Mr. Greenham bartered with him for his furs and usually came out best.

By and by John McCorkle opened a store. The name McCorkle is an honored one to this day in Piqua. He represented Miami County in the Ohio Legislature and was one of the most ardent friends of the canal, which he did not live to see completed. Among the other early merchants of Piqua were William Scott, John M. Cheevers, Jacob and Abel Furrow, Byram Dayton, James Defrees, Young & Sons, David J. Jordan, William Keyt, L. R. Brownell, Demas Adams, William and Lewis Kirk. All these old merchants have passed away, but among the heirlooms to be found at this day among the families of the county are certain goods, household utensils, etc., which were purchased over their counters. Some of these old-fashioned wares were paid for in "sharpskins," or the cut-money which came into use about the time of the second war with England.

The history of every locality has closely identified with it men who became a part of it in various capacities. This is essentially true of Piqua. It has had for its citizens some of the foremost men of the country. Among these is the late Stephen Johnston. Major Johnston came of good Irish stock. His father, who came to Ohio in 1808, was killed by the Indians near Fort Wayne, Ind., during the War of 1812. The mother of Major Johnston was Mary Caldwell, a pioneer woman who knew Daniel Boone and the famous backwoodsmen of the early day. She was acquainted also with several of the noted Indian chiefs, including Tecumseh, the red cyclone of the border wars. Major Johnston was a saddler by trade and had the distinction of having drafted upon his bench the charter for the Columbus, Piqua & Indiana Railroad company, now known as one of the component parts of the Pennsylvania System. He was elected sheriff of Miami County, was a candidate for governor on the Greenback ticket in 1877, and previously, 1864, an elector on the Lincoln ticket. Reaching a ripe old age he passed to his reward, having done much for the city which he helped to build up in connection with his own sterling character.

Another of Piqua's prominent citizens was Godwin Volney Dorsey, M. D., who was born in 1812. He became treasurer of state, being elected during the exciting Brough-Vallandigham campaign of 1863, though his first elevation to that office took place in 1861. Dr. Dorsey was originally a Jeffersonian Democrat, but in 1849 he represented Miami, Darke, and Shelby Counties in the legislature as a Whig. From that time on, covering a period of many years, he filled various offices of trust. He was a man of comprehensive erudition and a profound scholar. He translated the best part of Horace, some Greek tragedies and a number of Latin mediæval hymns. In therapeutics and surgery Dr. Dorsey stood at the head of his profession and his death was a loss to the city which he had honored by his learning and presence.

Major Johnston and Dr. Dorsey were

but two of the many citizens who stimulated the growth of Piqua. Among others in the profession of medicine stand Henry Chapeze, who came from Kentucky and located in Piqua about 1813. Dr. John O'Ferrall followed him in 1820, and he was succeeded by Drs. Jackson, Teller, Jordan, Hendershot and Worrell. These old practitioners, some of whom are still remembered by the older citizens of Piqua, gave way at last to others and with the "old guard" went the old practice of medicine.

When the Miami & Erie Canal was opened to Piqua the city became a miniature mart. Until then it had had but little intercourse with the outside world, save through the trafficking carried on by the flatboats and barges which navigated the rivers going as far South as New Orleans. Piqua for some time was at the head of canal navigation and therefore was a place much sought by the merchants and farmers of the surrounding country. The canal brought it much business and went far toward enriching a number of its citizens. The boats which cut the waters of the canal were many and "warious," as Mr. Wegg would say. There are extant to this day some of the old shipping bills of the late 30's from Cincinnati firms to Ashton & Ewing of Piqua. These ancient bills give the names of the boats with those of their captains who led the gaudily painted craft through the locks—Captains Prescott, Jordan, Clark, Whistler, Bennett, Culbertson, Barton and Taylor, all names connected with the early water navigation in Miami County. Piqua grew with the canal, which probably accounts for the tenacity with which the city still battles for its retention as a water-way, though much of its usefulness has departed.

The coming of the railroad to Piqua opened up a new avenue to business prosperity. The steam lines followed the canal and naturally took much business from it. Although steam is a swifter method of conveyance than mule power, the canal was slow to relinquish its domain. Freight continued to be hauled on the boats through Piqua and for years after the establishment of the steam roads canal traffic continued to be great. Of late years, however, this mode of shipment has diminished, and, while the locks are still maintained, the canal is no longer much of a business factor. The old system helped to build up Piqua, as well as other county towns along its route, and the early merchants found it an indispensable business agent.

The Dayton & Michigan Railroad was formally chartered in March, 1851. It was completed to Piqua in 1856. This gave the city and the contiguous region a long desired outlet to the South.

The railroad was hailed with delight by everyone. A new era had dawned, one of great promise to the commercial interests of the Border City. The same year that witnessed the entrance of the Dayton & Michigan Railroad in to Piqua (1856) saw the completion of the P. C. & St. L. Railroad (Pennsylvania Line) to this city. Major Stephen Johnston had drafted the charter of this line on his saddler's bench. An eastern market was now opened up to Piqua and this, with the region tapped by the Dayton & Michigan Railroad, added to the prosperity of the place. These two roads with their various branches placed the city in communication with the East and West. In later years and quite recently two prominent electric lines entered the city. The Dayton & Troy Electric Railway blazed the way for a trolley and the Dayton, Covington & Piqua Line came soon after. There is now electric communication with Cincinnati and Toledo, and, through the aid of branch lines, with nearly every part of Ohio and a large portion of Indiana.

The need of hydraulic power by Piqua inaugurated a move in that direction as early as 1856 when the Legislature passed a bill looking to the enlargement of the Lewistown Reservoir for hydraulic purposes. The "Miami Hydraulic and Manufacturing Company" which was organized at this time, failed to successfully interest the citizens of Piqua and was abandoned. In 1865 the "Piqua Hydraulic Company" was incorporated and Dr. Dorsey became its first president, serving till 1868. After a vast amount of work and the expenditure of large sums of money, after numerous drawbacks which would have discouraged less energetic people than its projectors, the hydraulic canal was completed and in June, 1876, it was opened for test and display.

"Probably no event connected with the city since its foundation," says a writer, "was of so much importance to its people and should conduce more to its ultimate growth and development, than the completion of the hydraulic canal, producing fine water power and thus creating the life artery of the city. A cheap and neverfailing power, it thus provided for running a great number of establishments requiring power. In addition to this use and operated by the hydraulic canal, there has been completed a system of waterworks, containing over seven miles of pipe and the necessary number of hydrants, furnishing an inexhaustible supply of water for domestic purposes, and, in connection with a well appointed fire department, giving a better protection against loss by fire than is usually found in cities of its class."

In 1890 the manufacturing and jobbing interest of Piqua amounted to over $7,000,000—figures which represent less than one-half of its actual business. In that year there was a grand total of 646 manufacturing establishments, wholesale and retail houses and miscellaneous industries. Since then this total has been largely increased. In 1906 seventy-nine manufactures were reported, with an annual payroll of $1,267,000. Upwards of two million dollars were invested in these industries and the total value of goods produced or manufactured amounted to twice that sum. This is certainly an excellent showing for a city of 15,000 inhabitants, a city upon whose site less than a century ago stood the cabin of the settler and the wigwam of the Indian.

Retracing our steps a little, let us describe the buildings of one of the famous public institutions of Piqua. About sixty-four years ago the city was interested in the erection of its town hall or council house, as it was then called. This old building which is still the official residence of the city, was commenced in 1843 and completed the following year. The contractors were Spencer & Darnold. J. Reed Hilliard furnished the brick and lime. It was in the early days of the Miami & Erie Canal and the iron work and glass of the building had to be transported from Cincinnati by water. Messrs. Reed, Hilliard and Walkup went to the Queen City to purchase the material on a boat run by Lawton and Barnett. After transacting their business the several agents found themselves icebound by the freezing of the canal and were obliged to seek other means of returning home. Mr. Walkup engaged the only remaining seat in the north-bound stage coach, while the other members of the party concluded to walk home. They made the entire journey on foot while the purchased material had to wait till the opening of the canal, which did not take place till the following spring. Work was then resumed on the council house and the "ornate structure," ornate for the time at least, was finally completed.

In those days it was asserted that the public square was east on Main Street. On the west side of Main Street stood the old academy or seminary of John Vail, where some of the elder residents of Piqua finished their education. The academy was a long, low structure which disappeared many years ago. On the site of the post office stood the home of Martin Simpson, which in later years gave way for what is known as the Conover Opera House. About this time the population of Piqua amounted to 2,600.

It is a far cry from the splendid school buildings of the city of Piqua back to the educational beginnings. The first inhabitants, desirous of having their children well educated, built the first school house in 1809. This building stood outside of the then limits of the town near the present corner of Main and Young Streets. The first teacher was John Hendershott. The interior furnishings of this "temple" of learning were of the simplest, the books the simple ones of early times. Hendershott could teach the "three R's" and was an instructor of the old style.

"A man severe he was and stern to view,
They knew him well and every truant knew,
Well had the boding tremblers learned to trace
The day's disasters in his morning face;
Full well they laughed with counterfeited glee
At all his jokes, and many a joke had he;
Full well the busy whisper circling round,
Conveyed the dismal tidings when he frown'd
Yet kind he was, or if severe in aught,
The love he bore to learning was in fault;
The village all declared how much he knew,
'Twas certain he could write and cypher too,
Lands he could measure, terms and tides presage,
And e'en the story ran that he could gauge.
In arguing too, the parson owned his skill,
For e'en tho' vanquished he could argue still,
While words of learned length and thundering sound
Amazed the gazing rustics ranged around,
And still they gazed, and still the wonder grew
That one small head should carry all he knew."

In 1818 the first schoolhouse gave way for a brick one and to this was given the loftier name of the Academy. Rev. J. P. Finley was the first instructor in the new building. It was not until 1850 that the public schools were organized. The graded schools of Piqua came in 1854, when the site for the first high school was selected. Dr. G. Volney Dorsey and William Scott, members of the board of education, chose the site, and A. G. Chambers was made the first teacher and superintendent of the new structure. Since then Piqua has made rapid strides in the matter of education, until today she stands in the foremost rank in matters of this kind. Her schools have sent into public life men and women who have made their mark and who have reflected honor and credit upon their Alma Mater. Every branch of education is taught in her high schools and her educators have always been of the highest order.

The religious institutions of the city have kept pace with its development along other lines. The United Presbyterians built the first log church in 1816. Before this time religious services were held in the homes of the early settlers and in the umbrageous groves that surrounded the town. The Rev. Dyer Burgess was the first minister to call the people to worship and his convincing discourses were long cherished by those who sat under the droppings of the first sanctuary erected in Piqua. In 1837 Rev. James Porter presided over a little flock in a neat brick building. The Methodists, after occupying the seminary on the public square, built a small brick church on Spring Street in 1825, but this gave way to a larger church edifice which became known as the Green Street Church. The most celebrated pastor this church has known was the renowned Granville Moody, known as the "Fighting Parson," for when the Civil War broke out he exchanged the pulpit for the tented field and was as successful as a conqueror of rebellion as he was as a conqueror of souls. It is asserted that during one of the fiercest battles of the war, overcome by military zeal and excitement, he instructed his command to "Give them h—l, boys!" But Colonel Moody always maintained that what he really did say was: "Give them Hail Columbia."

Other churches now followed in rapid rotation. The Methodists erected another on Water Street, known as Grace Church, James Stevenson, pastor; the present Old School Presbyterian church arose on the corner of Wayne and Ash streets, the Second Presbyterian on Wayne Street, while the Baptist first worshiped on Ash Street but afterward (1848) on High, near Wayne. The remaining churches of Piqua are St. James Parish of the Protestant Episcopal Church, which was organized about 1820, the German Lutheran, the United Brethren, the German Episcopal Methodist, the Roman Catholic. Of late years some of these old churches have given place to better houses of worship, until now the city is well housed religiously and the congregations are large and liberal. The congregations of Piqua will be further referred to in a separate chapter.

"The Piqua Female Bible Society" came into existence in 1817. This society followed the establishment of the American Bible Society by only one year. Its first president was Mrs. Rachel Johnston, who held the office continuously till her death in 1840, when Mrs. Eliza Petit became president. She was succeeded by Mrs. M. H. Jones, who conducted the affairs of the society until her death, which occurred in recent years.

It is not generally known by those outside the limits of Piqua that within her borders are numerous tumuli which indicate the residence of the Mound Builders. These first denizens of that part of the county covered by that city and its environs have left behind them traces of their abode. In some of these mounds have been found skeletons and various implements which attest the former presence of this vanished race. Mr. J. A. Rayner recently unearthed the complete skeleton of a mound builder along with some curious implements. In many parts of Piqua have been found numerous utensils, weapons, etc., used by the Indians and the Johnston farm near by has been discovered to be rich in such "finds."

While the history of the regimental organizations of the county which took part in the suppression of the Rebellion in 1861-1865 is treated in another chapter, reference must be made here to the patriotic

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL PROTESTANT CHURCH (GERMAN), PIQUA

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PIQUA

M. E. CHURCH, PIQUA

ST. BONIFACE CATHOLIC CHURCH, PIQUA

spirit that stirred the people of Piqua during that momentous period. It is but fair to say that the scenes were duplicated in other parts of the county. With the first enlistments which followed the memorable attack upon Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor, the loyal citizens of the Border City came forward with aid societies and kindred organizations which did much to keep up the spirit of patriotism. The first soldiers had hardly left the city with their faces turned toward the disloyal South ere the first Soldiers' Aid Society sprang into existence. The drum was still sounding in the ears of those left behind and the sun threw back from the sabres the first glints of war.

The first Piqua Aid Society was organized with Mrs. Henry Kitchen as president, Mrs. Preston Defrees, vice-president, Mrs. J. F. McKinney, secretary, and Mrs. James Starrett, treasurer. A quartette of women more loyal to the cause of the Union was not to be found in the country. The Green Street Methodist Church was the scene of the organization of the Society, and Mrs. Rachel Davis gave up a portion of her house for the work. Once a week the members of the Society came together. During the entire period of the war the ladies remained at their post of duty. They rolled bandages, scraped lint, knitted stockings and mittens for use at the front. Everything that could add to the comfort of the men who were fighting the battles of the Nation was done. Box after box of remembrances of home was filled and dispatched to the various camps where the soldiers of Miami County were to be found. It was a labor of love and duty. Not only were the men of the county remembered, but soldiers passing through Piqua were intercepted by the untiring workers and supplied with the comforts of life.

Not only this, but soldiers returning from the front, sick and wounded, found tender nurses in the women of Piqua. Nothing discouraged this patriotic organization, not even the disasters of Bull Run, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville and Chickamauga. In the hearts of Piqua's loyal women was an abiding faith in the final outcome of the struggle. The last winding-sheet of many a Piqua boy was folded by tender hands and his grave was strewn with flowers by the women of the Aid Society. Night and day they labored, some in mourning for those slain, and others in fear of what the next battle news would bring them. When the end came and the perpetuity of the Union had been established, the society held its last meeting and disbanded. Its work had been well done and the City of Piqua to-day is proud of the women who bound the warrior's sash and told him to come back with his shield or upon it, like the Spartan matrons of old.

On the 14th of June, 1899, the D. A. R. Chapter of Piqua set up a memorial stone on the site of the last battle fought in the French and Indian War. This spot is near the city. The addresses made on that occasion were as follows: By Rev. A. Ramsey on "The Glories of War," by Judge John C. Geyer in behalf of the sons of the American Revolution, by Dr. C. W. Bennett, who represented the Grand Army of the Republic. C. B. Jamison read an historical paper and James Ward Keyt a paper written for the occasion by the compiler of this work. Again, on Flag day (June 14) 1906 the same society placed a bronze tablet on the west end of the famous Col. John Johnston house with appropriate ceremonies. This old house is situated at Upper Piqua and during the War of 1812 was inhabited by Col. Johnston and his family. It was here that he kept a great many Indians from taking part in the contest and thereby saved the unprotected frontiers much bloodshed.

When a postoffice was established at Piqua, Arthur Brandon was made postmaster, receiving his commission from President Madison. I have been unable to secure a complete list of his successors, but from 1824 to the present time they have been as follows: James Defrees, John Carson, John W. Gordon, Joseph Housum, Henry C. Landis, John Marshall, Jonas Ward, Andrew J. Roe, Joseph M. Patterson, La Roy S. Jordan, J. R. Thorne, Henry C. Graflin, J. W. Shipley, John W. Morris, Joshua W. Orr. Edward N. Wilbee served as postmaster during a vacancy. The present roster of the postoffice is as follows: Postmaster, J. W. Orr; assistant, William H. Flach; money order and registry clerk, Arthur L. Redman; general delivery and stamp clerk, Lee F. Rayner; mailing clerks, Forest B. Hunter, Charles H. Folk, O. W. Scudder, Emmet Shane; special delivery messenger, George A. Reamer; city carriers, Charles C. Fisher, William M. Fleming, Louis Gabel, Charles H. Gram, H. W. McCabe, James V. Offenbach, Ray R. Shipley, J. M. Stump, Theodore Von Bargen; rural carriers, Harvey Anderson, Frank E. Craft, Charles Heitzman, Clyde DeWeese, William Shipley, John P. Wood. The Piqua postoffice is situated in the Conover Building and is one of the best appointed offices in the county.

The present efficient Fire Department of Piqua is the outgrowth of the one organized in 1843. At that time, as recalled by Capt. F. A. Hardy, who is one of the surviving firemen of the old days, the equipment consisted of an engine called "The Old Row Boat," which was very primitive in build and operation. "The firemen were seated on the top of the machine in two lines with their feet placed together, pulling on the brakes as though they were rowing a boat." A "bucket brigade" worked in conjunction with the old fire service, and the old leather buckets used by the men were laboriously but effectively handled on many occasions.

The city government of to-day has the following roster: Mayor, J. C. Hughes; president of council, J. H. Clark; auditor, Bert A. Reed; treasurer, George H. Rundel; solicitor, E. M. Bell. Members of council—John E. Anderson, A. M. Bowdell, George M. Peffer, Conrad Kalbfleisch, Michael Kerrigan, A. J. Licklider, Anson Mote; board of public service—Bland S. Levering, John G. Hagan, W. F. Robbins; board of public safety—W. K. Leonard, Dr. J. W. Prince; board of review—William Suff, Otto Simon; sinking fund and tax commissioners—Albion Thoma, John H. Young, W. L. Catterlin, George W. Berry; board of health—Dr. R. M. Shannon, W. W. Buchanan, W. T. Caldwell, Dr. J. H. Lowe, H. T. Dettman; board of education—Oscar Fisher, Dr. W. J. Prince, Charles C. Jelleff, Mrs. Frances Orr, E. P. Brotherton, Otto Von Bargen; chief of police, Frank Gehle; chief of fire department, P. J. Caulfield; city engineer, H. E. Whitlock.

In other chapters will be found mention of the banks, schools, churches, the press, fraternal orders and the several industries of the city. I realize that the present chapter does not fully cover the history of the City of Piqua, but its salient features have been given with all the accuracy attainable and is thus submitted to the reader. For a city that came out of the backwoods a century ago, Piqua has made a commendable growth in all lines, reaching out in every direction, having within her borders handsome public libraries, a complete Memorial Hospital, commodious banks, churches, schools, and other public institutions. It does not require the wisdom of a seer to predict still further advancement, nor to place the "Border City" on the banks of the Miami in the front rank of the growing municipalities of the Union. Piqua has a fame distinctly her own.

CHAPTER X.

MIAMI IN THE WARS

The War of 1812—Employment of the Indians by England—Battle of Tippecanoe—Tecumseh—Services of Col. John Johnston—Results of Perry's Victory on Lake Erie—Miami Heroes of the War—The War of the Rebellion—Prompt Enlistments—The Gravity of the Struggle Realized—Miami Soldiers on Many Battlefields—Eleventh Ohio Volunteers—Forty-Fourth Infantry and Eighth Cavalry—The Seventy-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry—Ninety-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry—One Hundred and Tenth O. V. I.—The One Hundred and Forty-seventh Regiment—Spanish-American War Volunteers—Roster of Veterans.

> Oh! once was felt the storm of war,
> It had an earthquake's roar,
> It flashed upon the mountain height
> And smoked along the shore;
> It thundered in a dreaming ear,
> And up the farmer sprang,
> It muttered in a true bold heart
> And a warrior's harness rang.
>
> *Brainard.*

The part taken by the people of Miami county in the War of 1812 was one of excitement. While no battles were fought within its limits, its patriotic citizens sprang to the call of arms and performed their allotted duties in an earnest manner. This war, brought on by the aggressive and tyrannic policies of England, was destined to blacken the frontiers with all manner of crimes. Its inhumanities were accentuated by the employment of Indians who, tiger-like, in their hunt for white victims, swept down upon the settlements of Ohio and left behind them a trail of fire and blood. The boasted fame of England received a blot which has never been wiped out. Those who steered the Georgian monarchy through that struggle covered themselves with disgrace which remains to this day. Not content with meeting the armed forces of the young Republic in the field, the British ministry connived at the brutalities perpetrated by the Indians. Some of the red captains were made commissioned officers by the King and actually wore the uniforms of his generals.

I shall not discuss the causes which led up to the War of 1812. It was not until 1813 that the Miami border felt the shock of war. The siege of Fort Meigs, which took place that year, was the incentive that turned Tecumseh and his warriors upon this fair region, which had just begun to blossom under the influences of civilization. The late Dr. Coleman, Sr., in his interesting reminiscences writes: "Rumors were in circulation of combinations among the various tribes of the Northwest and South, under the leadership of Tecumseh and his brother, the Prophet, backed by British influence. Our Government wanted more of their lands, but they refused to sell. With a view to bring them to terms, an expedition was fitted out in 1811. It was organized at the Falls of the Ohio and consisted of the Fourth United States Infantry and some two or three regiments of mounted Kentucky volunteers, all under the command of Gov. Harrison of Indian Territory. They proceeded into the Indian country in a northwesterly direction, striking the Wabash River near the present site of Lafayette, the Indians falling back and accumulating their forces, but still declining to treat. While in camp six miles north of Lafayette, the Indians made a night attack, attempting to storm the camp, but were finally repulsed after a most desperate hand-to-hand fight with tomahawk and bayonet.''

This engagement is known as the battle of Tippecanoe, and it was the defeat of the Indians on this occasion which sent the storm of savage warfare hurtling through the forests of Ohio. Tecumseh, who led the Indians in this battle, chafed under his overthrow and resolved to deluge the whole frontier in blood. Of this scarlet chieftain, perhaps one of the greatest that ever wielded a tomahawk, much has been written, and since some of his warriors entered Miami County and shed some of her settlers' blood, I may be pardoned for giving some of his history here.

It has been asserted that both the Anglo-Saxon and Creek blood ran in the veins of Tecumseh, but the better opinion seems to be that he was wholly a Shawnee. Col. Johnston, the Indian agent at Piqua, and Stephen Ruddell, of Kentucky, who for nearly twenty years was a prisoner among the Shawnees, possessed ample opportunities for knowing the lineage of Tecumseh. They both assert that his father was Puckeshinwa, a member of the Kiscopoke and Methoataske, his mother being of the Turtle tribe of the Shawnee nation. The parents of Tecumseh came from Florida to the north side of the Ohio about the middle of the eighteenth century. The father was killed in the Battle of Kanawha in 1774, leaving six stalwart sons and one daughter. Tecumseh was the fourth son. His name means ''the Shooting Star,'' and he certainly was a swift meteor of destruction.

Some diversity of opinion has prevailed as to the birthplace of Tecumseh, but it has been established that he was born in the valley of the Miamis on the banks of Mad River, a few miles below Springfield, and within the limits of Clark County. Ruddell says that the chief was born in 1768, which probably is correct, which would make him forty-three years of age at the beginning of the War of 1812, when he was in the full prime of savage manhood. He is supposed, though little more than a boy, to have taken part in the resistance offered to General Clark during that officer's campaign against the Indians in this county in 1782.

Early in life Tecumseh conceived the greatest plan that ever entered into the brain of an Indian. In this he was ably seconded by his brother, the Prophet, who was a gigantic fraud, but whose devilish incantations and wild sorcery gave him great control over the superstitious savages. Tecumseh's scheme was to unite all the red tribes against the whites; if he could accomplish his purpose he would bring into the field an army of warriors that would prove irresistible, and he proudly hoped that this tremendous force, sweeping forward as a unit, would put an end to American domination in the West. To this end he and his one-eyed brother visited all the tribes, going as far south as Alabama, Tecumseh stirring them up with his native eloquence and the Prophet filling their hearts with his boasted prophecies direct from the Great Father. The conspiracy was worthy the brains of its inventors. But it was not to succeed.

Tecumseh was stricken down at the height of his fame at the battle of the Thames in Canada, October 5, 1813, and with him died all hopes of a great Indian confederacy. His body was not found after the battle. The accepted story that this great warrior was slain by Col. Richard M. Johnson is based on fiction, as it is not known at whose hands he fell. The one bright spot in Tecumseh's life is his humane treatment of white captives, but in spite of this he is largely responsible for the deluge of blood that overwhelmed the frontiers during the War of 1812.

The personal appearance of this remarkable man was uncommonly fine. His height was five feet nine inches. His face was oval, his nose handsome and straight, his mouth beautifully formed like that of Napoleon I., his eyes clear, transparent hazel, with a mild expression when in repose or in conversation; but when excited in his orations, or by the enthusiasm of conflict, or when in anger, they appeared like balls of fire; his teeth were beautifully white, his complexion a light brown or tan. He always stood very erect and walked with a brisk, elastic step. He always dressed in Indian-tanned buckskin, wore a frock reaching to the knee, a belt of buckskin, in which were his silver-mounted tomahawk and knife, short pantaloons connected with leggings and moccasins, with a mantle thrown over his left shoulder. He was a general in the British army and one of the finest looking Indians that ever lifted a hatchet. Such, in brief, was the man feared by the early settlers of Miami County.

A number of our early settlers volunteered for service in the war. The border was in a state of suspense and fear, especially so after the murder of the Dilbones, an event already described. But for the efforts made by Col. Johnston in keeping the neutral Indians at Piqua during hostilities, the county might have been the scene of more than one massacre. At one time he had four thousand at his place and such was his power over them that they were prevented from taking the warpath.

Perry's victory on Lake Erie practically put an end to the war in the West and peace soon came back to the Miami settlements. The settler felt safe when he could place his rifle on its pins above the door and cultivate his fields without having to guard against Indian surprise.

Captain James Blue and Charles Wolverton were among the first citizens of the county to lead men toward the seat of war. Wolverton, hearing of the murder by the Indians of a man named Rush, marched after the savages, came upon their camp near Greenville and killed a few, including some squaws. The whites scalped their victims. A Covington company forayed along the Stillwater, but did not come to an engagement with the enemy. A few other forays were undertaken by the whites, but none of them were killed.

Among the men of this county who served in this locality during the war were Captains Reuben Westfall, E. Kirtly, William Barbee, Sr., Charles Wolverton, Jacob Mann, William Luce, Gardner Bobo, Charles Hilliard, John Williams, Conrad Flesher, Robert Reed, Moses Patterson, James Patterson, Timothy Titus and John Johnson. The roll of the privates included Joseph Marshall, Joseph Culbertson, William and James Shackelford, Aaron and John G. Telford, William Barbee, Jr., David McClung, James Youart, Aaron Tullis, Andrew Thompson, James Brown and Samuel Mackey.

These men, with a host of associates equally brave, stood between the scattered homes and Indian invasion during the whole period of the war. They were ready at all times for the most exacting and hazardous duty. But for them, roving bands of Indians might have swept across the county carrying destruction in their wake. The cemeteries of the county, today, hold the remains of these defenders. They are gone, but their deeds are not forgotten. Fortunately for the inhabitants of the county, the seat of hostilities was beyond her borders, but this does not detract from the services of her patriotic volunteers.

THE MEXICAN WAR.

The part played by this county in the War with Mexico was very small. Not over five men enlisted from within her borders. No regular command was raised here. The few who went served in a command raised at Dayton. This command did not see much real fighting in the Land of the Montezumas, but did some hard marching and took part in various side campaigns. One of the survivors of this little group of Miamians is the venerable Captain Frank Hardy, of Piqua, who has reached his ninetieth year. Captain Hardy is also a veteran of the Civil War, but his memory is bright and he relates with much vim some recollections connected with his service in Mexico. The Mexican War, owing to the slavery question, was not popular in this county, which fact no doubt discredited enlistments here.

THE WAR OF THE REBELLION.

In no county of the state were the portentous events that preceded the War of the Rebellion watched with more interest than in Miami. In the first place the people were opposed to human slavery. In early days a part of the "underground railroad" was operated in the county and more than one slave escaping from inhuman masters was concealed and steered to freedom. Therefore, when the South sought as a pretext for dismemberment the election of Abraham Lincoln, the people of Miami County prepared for what they regarded as inevitable. The first shot directed against Fort Sumter had hardly ceased to echo in the North before enlistments began within the county. Men of every walk in life came forward and offered their services to the National Government. There was no hesitation. Deep seated in the minds of all was the conviction that Secretary Seward's "breakfast spell" was to become at least an all day's job. The mettle of the South was well known. Men who had worshiped for years at the shrine of Calhoun, Yancey and Toombs, who had conspired in the shadow of the Capitol, were not embarking in war as child's play. It was to be a death grapple between Puritan and Cavalier, between the men of the North and the men of the South, Americans all, and brothers of the same blood.

Parts of six regiments were raised in Miami County during the war. These were the Eleventh, the Forty-fourth, the Seventy-first, the Ninety-fourth and the One Hundred and Tenth and One Hundred and Forty-seventh commands. Apart from these, organizations of men from this county enlisted in other regiments, while not a few took service in the navy. The story of the soldiers of the county is almost the story of the war. They proved their valor on some of the most hard-fought fields of the Rebellion—at South Mountain, Antietam, the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, Monocacy, Petersburg, Winchester, Cedar Creek, Stone River, Shiloh, Chickamauga, Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain, Atlanta, Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, Nashville and other places, witnessing at last the glories of Appomattox.

I shall give in detail the services of these regiments, beginning with

The Eleventh O. V. I.

The Eleventh Ohio Volunteers was first enlisted for three months, pursuant to President Lincoln's first call for troops for the suppression of the Rebellion. It was mustered into the three years' service June 20, 1861. Miami County furnished five full companies—B and F from Piqua, D, H and E from Troy. The men were in the full vigor of early manhood, types of western strength, patriotism and intelligence. The regiment first rendezvoused at Columbus and then proceeded to Camp Denison. It remained in its second quarters till July 7, when it received orders to pack up and move towards the seat of war. Its colonel was Charles A. DeVilliers, who soon afterward left the service. Crossing Ohio, the Eleventh reached Point Pleasant. It made a night march over Sugar Loaf Mountain and had some experience in picket duty on the sacred soil of Virginia. August 18, 1862, it moved to Parkersburg, and thence to Alexandria, near Washington, D. C., where it encamped. August 27th it was thrown forward to Manassas, where the Confederates had taken position. Previous to this, however, the Eleventh had seen some exciting service in West Virginia, where it had encountered the enemy at Hawk's Nest, Cotton Hill and Gauley Bridge. These minor engagements had to a degree tested the mettle of the men and they were ready for the greater events in store for them.

At Manassas the regiment crossed Bull Run and checked the enemy, who had driven back Taylor's New Jersey troops, but the Confederates, advancing in heavy force, forced the Unionists toward Fairfax. During the retreat the Eleventh acted as the rear guard. Remaining a short time within the lines at Washington, on the 29th of August the regiment occupied Munson's Hill, and on the 6th of September it took up its march for Maryland in pursuit of Lee, who had crossed the Potomac with his army. On the 12th the enemy was found holding a bridge over the Monocacy near Frederick. Three Union columns were formed, with the Eleventh in the center. The enemy was driven back and the bridge taken and two pieces of artillery were lost. Led by Col. Coleman, the regiment marched forward, recaptured the cannon and hurled the Confederates from their position. After a night at Monocacy the Eleventh crossed a spur of the

Blue Ridge, debouched into Middletown Valley and on the 14th advanced up the slopes of South Mountain, occupied by Garnett's division of General Lee's army. On this day was fought the battle of South Mountain, the prelude to Antietam.

The principal fighting done by the Eleventh on this memorable occasion took place on the summit of the mountain at a place since known as Wise's Field. Their advance was met by a fire from all sides. The regiment was surrounded by a growth of mountain laurel and the enemy was protected by a stone fence and was hard to dislodge. The regiment, after some desperate work, advanced on a charge, drove the Confederates from their position and held the ground. Many acts of individual bravery occurred among the ranks of the Eleventh on that day. Night put an end to the fighting, and Lee, failing to hold his position, fell back upon Sharpsburg, where he and McClellan were to meet in the bloodiest one-day's battle of the whole war.

The Eleventh was attached to the Kanawha Division, Second Brigade. On the morning of the 17th of September, 1862, Company F was sent out on the skirmish line with instructions to keep a close watch on the enemy. Captain Teverbaugh had hardly issued his instructions when the enemy, from his works below the bridge, on Antietam Creek, opened a lively fire. Company F was ordered to withdraw and moved to the right to act as a reserve to Company C. The bridge across the creek being an important point, General Burnside, who commanded that wing of the army, was ordered to carry it. The bridge was a stone structure, twelve feet wide and one hundred and fifty feet long, with three arches. Six thousand Confederates were in position across the stream, and the bridge was swept by their artillery. Skirmishers were thrown out and the Eleventh moved forward. Simmons and McMullins' batteries were raining their deadly missiles among the Southern ranks, who, in turn sent volley after volley from their muskets and artillery in the faces of our advancing troops. Bravely the men struggled forward, but in vain. The steady stream of cannister poured from the rebel cannon forced the line to waver and finally fall back. In this forward movement Col. Augustus H. Coleman, of Troy, received a wound which caused his death in a few hours. In advance of his men, cheering them on and closing up their broken ranks, he fell with his face to the foe.

Colonel Coleman was one of the bravest men in the Union Army. He was the son of Dr. Asa Coleman, one of the early pioneers of the county. He received his military education at West Point, and at the opening of the war was engaged in agricultural pursuits. He recruited a company of men within forty-eight hours and proceeded to Columbus with them April 26, 1861. At the reorganization of the Eleventh for the three years service he was elected major of the regiment and was promoted to lieutenant colonel January 9, 1862. A fine disciplinarian, he was the man of the hour and was a favorite with his troops. In his heroic death at Antietam the country lost a true soldier and a useful patriot.

The failure to carry the bridge across Antietam Creek forced Burnside to call for reinforcements, but none were sent. The order was repeated to carry the bridge at all hazards. The lines were reformed for another assault. The Eleventh responded nobly. They had replenished their empty cartridge boxes and moved forward again. It was to be death or the bridge. Despite the rain of missiles from the rebel gunners, the Unionists rushed on, reached the bridge and heroically gained the prize. In these desperate assaults the regiment took a prominent part. There was no better set of fighting men in McClellan's army. After taking the bridge the regiment advanced along the slope. Lee attempted to cut Burnside off and Burnside told McClellan that he must have more men and guns. McClellan said he had none to spare and the troops were compelled to fall back to the bridge. The hardest work done that day at Antietam was performed by the Kanawha Division. Burnside's bridge was the key to the whole affair. To lose it was to imperil Lee's whole army, and it is to the glory of the Eleventh that it did much to make victory on that part of the field certain.

After the battle of Antietam the Eleventh returned to West Virginia. It took post at Summerville, where it remained until January 17, 1863, when it moved to Gauley, joining General Crook and immediately embarking on the Kanawha River, this time for the Army of the Cumberland. It was on board of boats during the second fight at Fort Donelson. From the time of its transfer to the west the regiment served with the Army of the Cumberland till its muster out. Its loss at the taking of Burnside's Bridge was one officer and three men killed, one officer and eleven men wounded and five men missing.

There was still a lot of hard fighting in store for the Eleventh. On the 13th of April, 1863, the regiment had an engagement with the enemy at McMinnville, Tenn., and on the 23d it joined General Reynolds in a move against Wheeler and Forrest's cavalry. June 24th the Eleventh engaged the foe at Hoover's Gap and led the advance into Manchester. On the 29th the command moved on the Tullahoma Road and drove the enemy back. At Decherd Station, Tenn., General Turchin assumed command of the Second Brigade.

The month of September, 1863, witnessed the sanguinary conflict at Chickamauga. In this battle the fighting Eleventh bore a conspicuous part. It was the great grapple between Rosecrans and Bragg. During the forenoon of the 18th the Eleventh changed position several times, and about daylight on the following day went into line of battle near Lee and Gordon's Mill. Chaplain Lyle rode to the center of the line, and with Colonel Lane's consent addressed the regiment in words of comfort and encouragement and asked the men to join with him in prayer. Instantly every head was bowed and every hand clasped devoutly on the gleaming muskets. The old colors, pierced and rent on many battlefields, were drooped and amid the rattle of musketry the voice of prayer was heard.

The sacred ceremony ended, the regiment moved to the front line. Not a man faltered. It was a day of hard work for the boys of Miami County. Charge after charge was made through the death-struck woods. Sergeant Peck went down with the colors, but they were picked up again and pushed forward. When the enemy hurled his legions against the division Turchin changed front and charged. The next day the Eleventh took position on a slight elevation behind a breastwork of logs and

Y. M. C. A., BRADFORD

COVINGTON WOOLEN MIILLS, COVINGTON

RESIDENCE OF JOHN SCHRAM, NEWTON TOWNSHIP

TROY CARRIAGE SUN SHADE CO., TROY

MOTHER'S SPINNINGWHEEL
(From Painting by Horace J. Rollin)

FIREPLACE IN HOME OF HORACE J. ROLLIN, STAUNTON TOWNSHIP

stones, where it was subjected to a galling fire. The breastworks caught fire several times. In the afternoon the rebels, pushing through a gap in the Union lines, poured a heavy cross-fire upon the regiment. It was more than the men could stand. The brigade charged and drove the enemy back. That night the regiment withdrew to Rossville, having covered itself with glory in the bloody woods of Chickamauga.

The regiment remained cooped up in Chattanooga until the advance on Mission Ridge, November 24th. In this assault it fought splendidly and bore a prominent part in that memorable battle. One color bearer was struck seven times, and when he (Sergeant Bell) went down they were picked up by Lieutenant Peck, who fell mortally wounded. The Eleventh pursued the flying enemy towards Ringgold, Ga., and after fighting at Ringgold returned to Chattanooga. George Green, of Company H, received a medal for conspicuous bravery in the assault on the Ridge. In February, 1864, the regiment was paraded to receive a new stand of colors presented by the ladies of Troy. The next forward move of the regiment resulted in its conflict at Buzzard's Roost, after which came some hot work at Resaca. In all these engagements the regiment bore an honorable part.

Its term of service having expired, the Eleventh was mustered out at Camp Denison, June 21, 1864. Two companies whose time had not expired and the veterans of the regiment were recognized as the Eleventh Ohio Battalion and as such took part in the battles of the Atlanta Campaign and the march to the sea. During its whole service the Eleventh Ohio Regiment proved its worth as a military organization and reflected credit on the State on many a hard-fought field. During its three years' term it lost 152 men, many on the field of battle and others in the infernal prison hells of the South. The principal engagements in which the regiment took part are as follows:

Hawk's Nest, Gauley Bridge, Princeton, Bull Run Bridge, Frederick, South Mountain, Antietam, Hoover's Gap, Tullahoma, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge, Ringgold, Buzzard's Roost, Resaca —a list of which the Cæsarian legion might be proud. It can be said of the Eleventh that it shirked no duty; it performed nobly every service demanded at its hands, and to-day its survivors are among the best citizens of the Union.

THE FORTY-FOURTH INFANTRY AND EIGHTH CAVALRY.

The Forty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, known after veteranizing as the Eighth Cavalry, was organized at Springfield from September 12th to October 14th, 1861, to serve three years, and was mustered in at Camp Clark by J. H. Young, Captain Fifteenth Infantry, U. S. A. Its colonel was Samuel A. Gilbert, who resigned in April, 1864. After its muster the regiment moved to Camp Piatt, W. Va. Several companies of this regiment were recruited in Miami County. Shortly after the regiment's arrival at Camp Platt, five companies were ordered to Gauley Bridge, where they assisted in driving the rebel general, Floyd, from his camp. Two other companies were sent to Platona, which place they captured, and then moved against Colonel Jenkins at Logan Court House, but the wily colonel fled at their approach. Having passed the winter in comfortable quarters, the 1st of May, 1862, found the command again at Gauley Bridge, where it was brigaded with the Thirty-sixth and Forty-seventh O. V. I. under Col. George Crook.

The brigade moved to Lewisburg and from there the Forty-fourth penetrated to Dublin Depot and destroyed a portion of the railroad track. Returning hastily to Lewisburg, the enemy was met in full force and a lively battle followed. Great gallantry was displayed by the regiment on this occasion. It charged upon and captured a four-gun battery, took a number of prisoners and contributed greatly to the rout of the rebels. Falling back from before a force of 6,000 rebels, the regiment, with the brigade, reached Meadow Bluffs. On this occasion the Forty-fourth guarded the rear. The regiment was attacked, but fell back fighting to the Gauley, where the retreat was begun in earnest. All day and far into the night the regiment guarded the rear in a creditable manner. On September 13th the rebels appeared at Charleston and attacked. Another spirited contest ensued. The enemy was firmly met and held at bay for some time, but his overwhelming numbers forced the Unionists back, though every inch of ground was hotly contested. The brigade withdrew across a deep tributary of the Kanawha, severed the hawsers that held the suspension bridge, and retreated safely to Racine, on the Ohio, from which place it was conveyed by steamer to Point Pleasant.

The next campaign of the regiment was on Kentucky soil. For some time it was engaged in watching the movements of Kirby Smith, whom it pursued as far as Lexington, where it was assigned to the Second Brigade, Second Division, Army of Kentucky, commanded by General Gordon Granger. It returned to Frankfort December 20th, where it was mounted and did some effective work against the rebels. The men from now on lived almost constantly in the saddle, and engaged in many hot skirmishes with the enemy. At Dunstan's or Dutton's Hill it gallantly charged the rebel position and contributed materially to their rout.

Upon Burnside's advance into Tennessee the Forty-fourth was dismounted and accompanied him. The regiment bore an honorable part in all that took place in this movement. It pursued the enemy with vigor on many occasions and finally went into camp at Strawberry Plains, January 1, 1864; the proposal to re-enlist was made with a proposition that the regiment should be mounted, and nearly the whole six hundred accepted. On the 7th the Forty-fourth marched for Camp Nelson, Kentucky, thence to Cincinnati, where it waited for its muster rolls, after which it went to Springfield, where the men were paid off. This last act terminated the career of the regiment, after which it became the Eighth Ohio Cavalry.

The new organization reported for service at Camp Denison, March 28, 1864. Cincinnati was left behind May 10, and Charleston was reached on the 14th, the men having ridden thither bare-backed. On the 29th the Eighth marched to Lewisburg, and June 1st started with Averill on the disastrous Lynchburg raid. Staunton was reached on the 9th, where a junction was formed with Hunter. The whole command now proceeded toward Lynchburg. The enemy prevented the capture of the city by heavy reinforcements and after the close of a sharp fight the Unionists were obliged to retreat. It was an exciting episode in the history of the Eighth Cavalry. There was fighting much of the way. The Eighth was ordered to strengthen the rear guard, which service it did in an excellent manner. Fighting at one time a brigade of the enemy, it lost seventy-one in killed, wounded and prisoners.

Upon reaching White Sulphur Springs the regiment was divided and a part sent to Beverly. On the 23d of August three companies of the Eighth were surprised at Huttonville and captured. Later on Company A shared the same fate. October 29th three hundred rebels dashed into the camp of the regiment and some desperate fighting took place. On the 1st of December Col. Moore joined the regiment with his detachment from the Shenandoah. The veterans of the Eighth were almost constantly in the saddle for six weeks previous to the battle of Winchester. It made a charge upon the rebel fortifications at that place, fought bravely at Fisher's Hill and Cedar Creek and followed Early in his retreat up the Valley. Its work in the Valley elicited the praise of the commanding generals.

At Philippi a part of the regiment was surprised and captured, the prisoners being compelled to march afoot through the snow, then were loaded into stock cars at Staunton at the rate of seventy to a car and taken to Richmond. After suffering in the rebel prison till February 15th, the prisoners were sent to Annapolis for exchange and thence to Columbus, Ohio. In August, 1865, the regiment was once more ordered to Camp Denison, where it was mustered out of the service. The patriotic service of the Eighth Cavalry was highly creditable to its members. It endured many hardships, fought gallantly and sustained to the very last the honor of the Ohio soldiery. Whether under Hunter, Averill or Sheridan, the regiment made its mark wherever it served.

The Seventy-first O. V. I.

The Seventy-first Ohio Volunteers was recruited in part in Miami County, which furnished companies F, C and E. It was a fighting regiment and covered during its term of service more ground than any one similar command in the Union armies. It was recruited under the superintendency of Barton S. Kyle and G. W. Andrews. In the latter part of October, 1861, the regiment rendezvoused on the Old Fair Grounds at Troy, and reached Camp Tod at Columbus February 10, 1862.

It received its baptism of fire at Shiloh on the memorable 6th of April. The regiment was unfortunate in the choice of its colonel, who was Rodney Mason, of Springfield, a man boastful when there was no enemy in sight, but not so brave in actual combat. On the fatal morning of the 6th the regiment, fresh from the comforts of home, was hastily formed in line of battle. I cannot better describe the part taken by the Seventy-first on the 6th of April than in the words of the late Captain E. S. Williams, who was a member of the regiment and an active participant in the scenes.

"We were formed," he says, "under the guns of a rebel battery and in a trap surrounded by the advancing lines of seven rebel regiments, and when, to save the regiment from capture, our colonel, instead of having us fall back in line as a regiment, led us back at will with the motto, 'Every man for himself and the devil take the hindmost.' We fell back about three hundred yards and formed on the crest of a wooded hill, 250 strong and for two fierce hours we fought, the rebels to gain, we to hold that position, with no reserve, no cannon, deserted by our colonel early in the fight. For two long hours we fought three times our number with that stubborn native valor which was so eminently displayed by the army on that ill-fated day. In our front were men who knew how to die, but not how to retreat. Bullets were falling like hailstones and cannon balls were sweeping through our ranks. It was there that Col. Barton S. Kyle, of Troy, received his death wound.

"I remember how we dragged the wounded from the front line, and how we fought by the side of the dead and dying until every regiment of our brigade had retreated and left us to contend alone and single-handed with the rebel brigade. Three times that rebel brigade formed in line of battle and advanced to the charge and were compelled to fall back under our withering, deadly fire, yet with the battle cry of 'Hell or Home,' those brave Tennessee regiments rallied again and charged. We fell back only when we were literally surrounded by the rebels."

Such was the heroism of the Seventy-first at Shiloh, a battle in which the regiment lost 130 men on Monday. It was a stand worthy the patriotism of Leonidas and his Spartans. Colonel Kyle, who was killed in Monday's battle, was one of the prominent citizens of Troy. He was born within the county in 1825. For six years he served as auditor of the county, and was elected as clerk of the common pleas court in 1859. He was a member of the National Convention which nominated Fremont for the presidency. Full of patriotism, he helped to recruit the Seventy-first and took the field with it. He was a vigilant and popular officer and beloved by his men, and his death was lamented by every man in the regiment. Fearless of danger, he fell at the post of duty as the true hero falls, and well deserved the eulogism of Whitelaw Reid, who said of him at Shiloh: "Ohio lost no truer, braver man that day than Barton S. Kyle."

After its terrible experience at Shiloh the Seventy-first was ordered to the Cumberland River to hold the posts of Fort Donelson and Clarksville. Six companies of the regiment were taken prisoners at the latter place August 18th. A gallant fight was made at Donelson. In Carthage, Tenn., three companies of the regiment were stationed and while there they encountered the rebel guerrillas in numerous bitter fights. It was at Clarksville that Col. Mason cowardly surrendered a part of the regiment when he could have routed the enemy. For this act Mason was cashiered.

The Seventy-first after its exchange had a varied and exciting history. In the spring of 1864 it moved south and did effective work at Jonesboro, Lovejoy Station and Atlanta. When Hood swung northward, leaving Sherman to sweep towards the sea, the Seventy-first was among the commands that started on the race for Nashville. It was now a part of Stanley's Corps. At Spring Hill it narrowly escaped capture by Hood, who blundered there and brought on the bloody engagement at Franklin, in which the regiment took no active part. But it was in the battle of Nashville, a battle which destroyed

Hood's army, that the regiment was again to show its fighting qualities.

Under the leadership of Colonel Hart the Seventy-first dashed up the steep ascent of Overton's Hill amid a tempest of lead and iron and gallantly carried the rebel position. It was a desperate assault and grandly executed. It placed a new crown on the heads of the men from Miami. In the battle of Nashville the regiment lost one-third of its numbers in killed and wounded, including several excellent officers. Nashville was fought December 15, 1864, when the Confederacy was tottering to its fall.

After this battle the regiment saw no more active fighting. It had enlisted for the war, but expected that with the surrender of the rebel armies and the collapse of the rebellion it would be mustered out. Such, however, was not the case. It was ordered to the Texas frontier under Sheridan to keep watch on the French in Mexico. The regiment, much decimated by its long and active service, its heavy loss in battle and prison, remained on Texas soil until long after the close of the war, when it was finally mustered out of the service. Its original strength was 879 men; when mustered out it numbered only 377. It was mustered out at San Antonio, Texas, and discharged at Camp Chase. Among the battles fought by this heroic regiment I find Shiloh, Clarksville, Hartsville, Fort Donelson, Cumberland Iron Works, Jonesboro, Lovejoy Station, Columbia and Nashville.

For some time the paltroonry of its colonel affected the reputation of the regiment and caused it to be considered as an "unlucky command," but all this was wiped out on the field of Nashville and the bloody slopes of Overton's Hill. The Seventy-first came home with honor and furnished more men in prominent positions in public life after the war than any regiment that left the county. Two of its members, Capt. E. S. Williams and Charles M. Anderson, became members of Congress, and other members made their mark in official capacities. The regiment was among the last to turn northward after the war, proud of its record on some of the hardest fought fields of that terrible struggle and having in its ranks some of the bravest men that ever shouldered a musket or drew a sword.

THE NINETY-FOURTH O. V. I.

Camp Piqua witnessed during the stirring events of 1862 the formation of two fighting regiments. One of them was the Ninety-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, under the supervision of Col. J. W. Frizell. Recruiting proceeded so rapidly that in one month one thousand and ten men were mustered into the service of the United States. The mustering took place August 24th. No time was given the regiment for drilling, for Kirby Smith had invaded Kentucky and troops were needed at the front. So the men of Miami were rushed from Camp Piqua to Cincinnati and thence to Lexington. Only three rounds of cartridges could be found for the men. The Ninety-fourth reached Lexington and learned of the Union defeat at Richmond a few miles distant. Matters had a gloomy aspect, and the regiment was ordered to Tate's Ford, on the Kentucky River, fifteen miles east of Lexington. It was the first marching experience for the men, and an exhaustive one it was.

On this occasion the regiment first met

the enemy and proved that it was to gather fame as it went on. Veterans could not have behaved better. The night was dark, the men lying down, when the rebel volley burst upon them. Hungry and almost without ammunition, a God-send came with some wagons which put an end to their needs for the present. During breakfast a rebel battery opened on the troops, but Col. Frizell succeeded in safely withdrawing his command.

Back to Lexington went the regiment, and thence to Louisville. Bragg and Buell were facing each other on Kentucky soil, and their maneuvers brought on the desperate battle of Perryville, October 8th. In this engagement the regiment bore an active part, being in the thick of the fight and acquitting itself with the credit of an experienced command. Perryville, for the numbers engaged, was one of the most sanguinary battles of the war. The Ninety-fourth suffered a loss of officers and men, among the former being Captain John C. Drury, of Troy.

Captain Drury was a Massachusetts man by birth. Coming to Ohio, he engaged in the mercantile business, and when the war broke out, being of an intense patriotic nature, he recruited a company for the Eleventh Ohio, in 1861, but afterwards took a captaincy in the Ninety-fourth. He was a good officer, much beloved by his men, and if his career had not been cut short at Perryville would undoubtedly have reached a much higher command. He fell at the head of his company during the crisis of the battle. Well may it be said of him:

> "A soldier true, a patriot tried,
> Beneath his country's flag he died."

There was no further fighting for the Ninety-fourth till it was called on to face the foe at Stone River. It had been Bragg and Buell in Kentucky; it was Bragg and Rosecrans in Tennessee. At Murfeesboro, or Stone River, the regiment maintained its reputation as a gallant body of men. Cast into the whirlpool of that desperate engagement, the regiment had some of the fiercest fighting that fell to its lot during its term of service. It was repeatedly struck by the advancing and exultant rebels and it gave the enemy as good as he sent, contesting every foot of the ground with great heroism. The battle of Stone River was fought during the closing days of '62 and the first of '63. It resulted in what might be termed a Union victory, since Rosecrans held the field and Bragg was forced to withdraw his army.

During the Tullahoma campaign the Ninety-fourth was in the advance and went gallantly into the fight at Hoover's Gap in June, 1863. After a brisk little affair at Dug Gap came the memorable battle of Chickamauga. The regiment belonged to the First Division, Fourteenth Army Corps, during the fighting around Chattanooga. Its colonel was Rue P. Hutchins, its brigade Scribner's, its division Baird's, Thomas' Corps. Crossing the Tennessee at Bridgeport, Ala., the Ninety-fourth marched to Trenton Valley, and, after Dug Gap, remained in McLemore's Cove till September 18th, when it faced about for Chickamauga. It reached Kelley's farm on the Lafayette Road at daylight on the 19th. The regiment encountered the enemy a short distance east of Kelley's field and pushed him back. From that time on the fighting was fierce. A part of Cheathan's rebel division attacked Scribner's front and right, and the brigade was forced back, losing heavily. In this hot work the Ninety-fourth behaved splendidly.

On the morning of the 20th the regiment occupied a position in the front line of the brigade. Barricades of logs and rails were hastily thrown up. At 9:30 Held's brigade assaulted this part of the line and the Ninety-fourth assisted in hurling him back. Again and again the regiment was called upon to meet the fierce assaults of the enemy. Colquit and Walthall led their men in gray against the brigade, had but to retire. The Ninety-fourth held its position all day and until the general order to retire was given in the evening. The command retired rapidly through the woods, and, avoiding capture, withdrew wth the whole army to Rossville. Such, in part, was the work of the Ninety-fourth in the battle forest of Chickamauga.

On the 23d of November the regiment took part in the assault and capture of Lookout Mountain, and followed up its success by the heroic scaling of Mission Ridge, where Bragg was defeated. In both these engagements the regiment sustained its reputation as a fighting command and added to its laurels. Its charge up Mission Ridge is one of the most gallant feats of the war. This battle preceded the memorable campaign of Atlanta by Sherman, in which the Ninety-fourth took part. It was under fire for one hundred days and fought in numerous pitched battles. When Sherman set out upon his famous march to the sea the Ninety-Fourth was well in the advance. It crossed Georgia, and turned toward the Carolinas, participating in the battle of Bentonville, one of the last of the war. It was the first infantry regiment to enter the capital of North Carolina, soon after which it beheld the surrender of Johnston and marched to Washington, where it took part in the magnificent review which followed the close of the war. Of the thousand and ten young men who marched out of Camp Piqua in 1862 but three hundred and thirty-eight marched up Pennsylvania Avenue on that occasion. Of the others many had died in battle or from wounds and disease, including not a few who perished from starvation in rebel prisons. The battles of the Ninety-fourth included Tate's Ferry, Perryville, Stone's River, Tullahoma, Dug Gap, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge, Resaca, Dallas, Kenesaw Mountain, Chattahoochie River, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, Jonesboro, Bentonville. The regiment is represented by monuments and tablets at Chickamauga and Mission Ridge, but these do not fully tell the story of its service in defense of the Union. This service given freely is the Ninety-fourth's guerdon of fame and succeeding generations can point with pride to the heroic manner in which it sustained the honor of the Nation, State and County.

THE ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH O. V. I.

Almost simultaneously with the organization and departure of the Ninety-fourth regiment the One Hundred and Tenth rendezvoused at Camp Piqua. Its colonel was J. Warren Keifer, afterward major general and speaker of the Lower House of Congress. Companies A, E, and G came from Miami County. The regiment upon its departure from Camp Piqua was ordered to Virginia, where it did guard and picket duty for some months. Reaching Winchester, it was assigned to the First

Brigade, Second Division, Eighth Army Corps.

June 13th, 1863, it fought its first pitched battle with the rebels at Kernstown. Here the One Hundred and Tenth gave proof of its metal. At Kernstown the regiment encountered Lee's advance and disputed every inch of ground with the enemy. The next day twenty-six pieces of artillery were trained on the regiment's position and its works were assaulted. The boys held their works till forced out at the point of the bayonet and retired fighting. They fought their way to Harper's Ferry, where they occupied Maryland Heights for a time, moving next to the Capital.

Later on the One Hundred and Tenth moved to Governor's Island, where it remained until sent forward to the front. In November, 1863, it again encountered the enemy at Brandy Station, where it was severely shelled and was the first command to occupy the rebel works. It went into winter quarters at Brandy Station, and May 4th, 1864, it crossed the Rapidan as a part of Grant's grand army destined for the conquest of Richmond. The next day the command found itself amid the wild tangle of the Wilderness and the great game of war opened once more. The battle of the Wilderness cannot be fully described. There was none other like it during the war. In the series of encounters that took place on this bloody ground the regiment bore an heroic part. It charged and was charged in return; it had to face about and fight the enemy from every quarter. It is no wonder that it lost one hundred men in that dense forest. The rebels protected by the tangle of trees and bushes assaulted from every side

"And then there rose so wild a yell
Within that dark and gloomy dell
As if the very fiends that fell
Had pealed the battle cry of hell."

On the 7th the regiment fell back to Spottsylvania Court House, where it again met the enemy, losing heavily in that struggle. Skirmishing and fighting till the 14th, the regiment waded the Nye and occupied the rebel works. June 3d it was in the front line at the battle of Cold Harbor, which was one of the slaughter pens of the war. All day it was exposed to a heavy fire, losing some officers and men and on the 14th it crossed the Chickahominy and moved by water and land to Bermuda Hundred. On June 20th it charged the rebel works near Petersburg, where it remained facing the enemy until a few days later, when it was sent north to assist in repelling Early, who threatened Washington.

On the 9th of July, 1864, it took part in the desperate battle of Monocacy, where it fought till, hard pressed by a crush of numbers, it was obliged to fall back. At Monocacy it lost one hundred men. After a round of varied services it helped to fight the battle of Cedar Creek, September 19. It was now a part of the Sixth Corps, commanded by Wright, with Otho H. Binkley at the head of the regiment. Surprised by the rebels at Cedar Creek, the Union army was driven back till reformed by the opportune arrival of Sheridan from Winchester. In this battle the regiment performed prodigies of valor and its loss was again heavy.

After Cedar Creek the One Hundred and Tenth retired to Petersburg, where it remained all winter. On the 25th of March, 1865, the brigade of which the regiment was a part, assaulted and carried some rebel lines, capturing many prisoners. Lee now evacuated Petersburg and was hotly pursued by Grant's forces. At Sailor's Creek the One Hundred and Tenth fought its last pitched battle. In this battle it showed its old time gallantry. March 17th, at the presentation of captured flags to Major General Meade, the command, having captured more flags than any other regiment in the corps, was chosen as a guard of honor to escort the trophies to General Meade's headquarters. Continuing the pursuit of Lee, the regiment took part in the surrender at Appomattox Court House, the glorious consummation of the war, and afterward marched in the Grand Review at Washington in the presence of the President, General Grant and assembled thousands.

The record of the One Hundred and Tenth is one to be proud of. It had more men killed, wounded and missing than any one regiment during the war. Of the 1,000 men who marched in its ranks from Camp Piqua almost 800 had fallen from its ranks by the hand of war. It fought in twenty-one battles, among which we find: Union Mills, Winchester, Stephenson's Depot, Wapping Heights, Brandy Station, Mine Run, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Nye River, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Ream's Station, Monocacy, Snicker's Gap, Charlestown, Halltown, Smithfield, Opequan, Fisher's Hill, Cedar Creek, Cedar Springs, Jutersville, Sailor's Creek, Appomattox. It came home with depleted ranks and tattered banners, a glorious part of that heroic army which by four years of war maintained the supremacy of the American Union.

THE ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-SEVENTH.

This regiment was raised wholly within the boundaries of the county. It was called out for one hundred days to relieve veteran regiments that were needed at the front. It performed its duties in an able manner. It was mustered into service at Camp Dennison May 16, 1864, and proceeded to Washington. First ordered to Fort Ethan Allen, it afterward moved to Fort Strong, where a part of it was stationed, the rest being sent to Fort Marcy. It was commanded by Col. B. F. Rosson, of Troy. At midnight, June 11th, the regiment was ordered to Fort Reno, where for a time it was exposed to a brisk fire from the rebels. At Crystal Springs it supported the 1st Maine and 1st Ohio Batteries until the repulse of Early's forces. Had the One Hundred and Forty-seventh been actively engaged there is no doubt that it would have reflected credit on the cause of the Union. Upon its return to Washington, the regiment was personally thanked by President Lincoln for its services, after which it returned home.

Such briefly were the services of the Miami regiments in the field during the war. Other soldiers from the county served in the Forty-second Ohio, Garfield's regiment, some in the First Ohio Infantry, the First Cavalry, in several Ohio batteries, and in the navy. All made splendid soldiers and upheld the patriotic standard of the county. All deserve praise alike.

During the war with Spain a large number of the youth of the county went to the front and, so far as opportunity afforded, emulated the services of the heroes of the War of the Rebellion. The Spanish-American volunteers demonstrated that the spirit of patriotism was not dead in Miami.

The dead of Miami County lie all over the South. They fell with their faces to the enemy or suffered death and worse in the prison pens which are a lasting disgrace to that fair portion of our country. On nearly every battlefield of the rebellion the soldiers of Miami fell for the perpetuity of the Union, giving up their lives for the flag.

They lie on many a wellworn hill, they camp on many a plain,
They dream where once the battle-ships with iron cut the main,
The roses of Virginia bloom above a missing host,
Their graves are mile-stones all the way from Nashville to the coast;
They're touching elbows yet, I know, where once they loved to stand.
Where flows the Rappahannock and where rolls the Cumberland;
The lilies of the golden West their snowy petals shed
Upon the dewy pillows of Miami's soldier dead.

To the stars that shine at even there is not one missing grave,
Their golden light falls softly on the loved and absent brave,
And He who sees a sparrow's fall has marked the holy spots,
And angel hands have planted there His own forget-me-nots;
We've left them to His keeping, for we know He'll keep them well,
Tho' lost they are to us today in wilderness and dell,
And tho' we nevermore shall hear their gay and gallant tread,
We know God's bugles will awake Miami's soldier dead.

They endured the hardships of camp, battle and prison pen with a heroism worthy their American manhood. Their fame is everlasting; their glory is the Nation they saved from dissolution. Their deeds of valor will never be forgotten. All hail the patriotic soldiers of Miami County!

VETERANS OF THE WAR OF THE REBELLION AND SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR NOW RESIDING IN MIAMI COUNTY.

Troy—Isaac Allen, H. H. Bear, John Bagford, John Barnhart, Chas. B. Bayman, Charles Beanblossom, Silas A. Beanblossom, John Boone, Cornelius Bowne, Charles N. Burns, Morris Burns, Jesse Burkett, J. C. Byrkett, N. W. Cady, S. A. Cairns, T. M. Campbell, J. M. Campbell, Elijah H. Carman, S. S. Carnes, William A. Carver, James Chappell, Abbot Childs, Joseph E. Chipley, Thomas Chipley, William Coffinger, Joshua Couch, M. F. Counts, L. F. Counts, Dallas Craver, Gustave Croner, Hiram Cushing, William I. Dailey, Emanuel Deeter, Gust Deihl, David Deweese, M. Lafayette Deweese, Silas Dolison, William Dorsey, Sylvester Dye, Henry H. Earhart, W. W. Edge, George H. Edmonds, John Edwards, Daniel Ehle, Charles Eidemiller, Christ Eidemiller, William W. Elliott, Andrew Emmel, David Emmel, Henry Emrich, Will A. Evans, S. Ferguson, Thomas D. Fitch, Jacob Frank, S. D. Frank, Henry Franton, John S. Forgy, Solomon Funderburg, E. O. Furrow, Johnston B. Geisinger, William Gibson, Stephen E. Giffin, Robert Gordon, John A. Gorman, William W. Green, Wilber Gussman, A. M. Heywood, John V. Higgins, Henry H. Hill, Frank Homan, Wilson S. Hoover, William Hunt, Henry B. Jamison, Andrew F. Johnson, Calvin Johnson, Alvin Jones, James Jones, George Kempfield, George Kennedy, John Kessler, Benjamin Knapp, Walter Knapp, Thompson Kendall, Isaac Knick, M. K. Knoop, J. T. Knoop, James Knox, Charles Layton, Aaron Landry, D. L. Lee, Jacob Leeb, Joseph Lewis, Henry Loyd, Minerd Lump, W. R. Marsh, Stafford Maxwell, L. A. Meredith, Michael H. Millard, Reuben Miller, Joseph Miller, James T. Moorehead, Moses Monday, John W. Morris, Joseph Moton, P. H. Moyer, William McClure, John M. McCrossin, John A. McCurdy, Charles H. McCullough, John A. McMasters, William R. McKee, Jasper McDowell, Leander McDonald, A. M. McKinley, Frederick B. McNeal, George Niswonger, J. W. Oblinger, Charles W. Owen, Charles M. Patty, John M. Pearson, Isaac Peck, George W. Peckham, David C. Pierce, D. C. Rager, George W. Reeder, John W. Riley, Erastus Robins, Madison Robins, Samuel L. Robbins, John C. Rodgers, Howard Rollins, W. R. Russell, Dillars Shaffer, Ira Shellabarger, Charles R. Shilling, T. C. Shilling, Levi Sommers, H. C. Somerville, Richard Southerland, Samuel Spain, Lewis L. Speagh, William Stith, Thomas Stewart, Enoch Stoglin, Henry Stouts, Frank M. Sterrett, David Stanup, Robert Smith, Thomas Stewart, John W. Smitley, E. M. Tannehill, W. I. Tenney, John Thomas, Robert Trimbur, Francis M. Wall, William Weddle, John D. Weatherhead, Henry P. Weatherhead, Henry Wesco, J. L. Williamson, John C. Wright, George Williams, D. D. Young, E. C. Zeigler.

Piqua—John Bradley, Henry Brokaw, John Cox, James L. Rich, Herman Seibt, Wm. D. Snyder, E. D. Stevens, John Winters, Harvey Weaver, Simon Wicks, David Wahmhoff, Samuel Wahmhoff, William White, Louis Alseyer, James S. Bierley, David Brant, David S. Bates, Charles F. Clarkson, Preston Covault, Christ Loeffler, Daniel McKee, Charles A. McClintock, Thomas McKinney, John W. Peterson, Newton Mears, Walter Moyer, Isaiah Milhouse, Charles Noland, William Piper, Jerome Pecher, Fred Rhine, John H. Rain, Jesse Locklear, Samuel H. McClay, Jerry Morrow, Louis Miksolajenski, John McClure, James Michaels, Orie Michels, James Manning, John D. Mills, H. S. Neal, Albert Pepper, William Phillip, Clem Reid, H. P. Spencer, Joseph Schneider, T. R. Thompson, Albin Thoma, Samuel Wright, Sebastian Wagner, N. M. Williamson, Lafe Baldock, George N. Brush, John Baker, Oliver Bierley, Paul Crowder, Matthias Cole, Oscar Collins, Harry Daugherty, John Deitrick, John Ehlen, George Ewel, R. O. Edwards, Joseph Fisher, William Faulkner, Earl Gregory, Joseph B. Hill, Harry Hemming, John Hubbard, William C. Hall, William H. Kendell, George W. Gustin, Louis Keifer, W. M. R. Luce, Ezra Longanecker, Henry A. McCabe, A. J. McFall, J. B. McFarland, David Oblinger, W. P. Orr, C. W. Orr, Arthur G. Reed, Joshua W. Shipley, Conrad Sheeler, Louis Semidt, J. W. Sullenberger, William H. Turk, G. C. Throckmorton, Lewis N. Thompson, William Van Horn, George Woods, Adam Chesney, George R. Caves, A. A. Denman, William Deweese, James Frost, A. J. Furrow, Joseph Farmer, James Gillard, Sylvester Keplinger, Daniel H. Lentz, G. T. Little, Harry Long, Madison Millhouse, George A. Reamer, John Scott, John Sowers, David E. Small, Henry Tobias, Michael Tobias, P. H. Tracey, Peter Jones, George E. Lee, Martin McNeely, Benjamin Mattox, Joshua W. Orr, Judd L. Palmer, Harry L. Peterson, Henry Roegner, James Rees, John P. Smith, William H. H. Snyder, Samuel Zollinger, R. S. Anderson, S. C. Bowman, C. W. Bennett, George W. Berry, George W. Cruse, Benj. I. Dubois, M. L. De Vinnie, Moses Flesh, A. B. Frame, A. M. Vaugh, Sidney Vicks, J. C. White, Benjamin H. Webster, Joseph S. Wiley, John W. Widney, W. H. H. Aspenall, Ross Collins, Charles Colmorgan, Edward J. Collins, Robert F. Graham, Henry Kontz, Frederick Meyer, Samuel K. Statler, Daniel Layton, Morris J. Stillwell, William Armstrong, Daniel Ault, Augustus Ayers, Albert M. Brotherton, John H. Bowman, William Mitchell, John T. Nigh, Nathaniel Nason, George N. Noland, James W. Williams, John N. Woodmaney, Thomas J. Wolfe, Enos P. Wright, Theodore D. Brooks, Charles Bane, Elbert M. Bell, Anthony M. Carson, Jacob Crapsey, Perry H. Deardaff, Wesley Eichelberger, William Freshour, Augustus C. F. Finck, Harrison Gear, David A. Gilmore, J. R. George, Gustavus Hunt, Sylvester L. Bell, Charles C. Barnett, William C. Blanke, William Bond, William H. Blue, John C. Boyle, Lewis L. Babylon, William F. Bancroft, William R. Bowele, Oliver Elliott, Edward R. Green, Thomas W. Green, William Gerlach, Lewis W. Garrett, Elias Mills, Augustus Morse, Harris Mayo, George N. Moats, Charles Carr, Harvey Craft.

Pleasant Hill—R. W. Brandon, Daniel Brown, Allen H. Coppock, Henry Coppock, John C. Cecil, D. W. DeBra, Henry Gilbert, James Hamiel, William Hahn, J. D. Iddings, M. S. Longanecker, Edward Laughman, Ephraim Longanecker, H. W. Meyers, Henry Martindale, Valentine Minnich, Jasper Marshall, Elihu Neves, L. H. North, Amos North, W. F. Patty, Allen Reiber, Jacob Reiber, L. P. Stout, E. B. Stout, J. F. Shoe, Alfred Shoe, N. B. Teeter, W. N. Tucker, Wesley Thompson, Judson Teeter, Henry Vannoy, G. N. Whitmer, W. H. Wroten, J. R. Whitaker, Clayton Walker, John Huffman, Arnold Helmick, S. W. Kiester, Noah Pearson, Henry H. Shill, John VanKirk, Samuel Wallack, David Ward.

Tippecanoe City—John Athey, L. H. Augsberger, John M. Barr, H. H. Bryant, Adam Boen, Theodore Boyce, Edmun Cheney, M. E. Crane, W. H. Clark, Daniel A. Cory, Lorenzo Clawson, William Collins, W. W. Davy, Jacob C. Davis, Uriah J. Favorite, Jacob E. Freet, David Frey, Jacob Hand, Sr., S. D. Hartman, George Hosier, Frederick Hogendobler, Hezekiah E. Hawver, William M. Johnson, Lewis W. Jacobs, Levi E. Jacobs, C. Krise, Jacob Lewis, A. A. Mitchell, A. W. Miles, James Mahaffey, John Martindale, Christopher R. Moser, J. E. Noland, John Nunlist, Joseph Pearson, H. J. Ritter, Charles Schick, John Shafer, John W. Strader, Jacob Sinks, W. B. TenEick, J. C. Walton, Samuel Wells, T. B. Wells, Silas Westfall, Squire Wirt, C. D. Winters, Clinton Champlin, John Clark, Milton Evans, John Ehrhart, Walter Gaines, Charles Johnson, Jacob Cress, Thomas J. Macy, Francis M. Prill, James H. Ertz, Henry Vore.

Covington—Andrew Babylon, Isaac Butterworth, Thomas Brandon, E. E. Brown, G. W. Butts, James A. Bradford, Edward Babylon, Elias Bixler, Eleazer Bitner, John Branson, Benjamin F. Cain, I. A. Corwin, T. F. Campbell, Byron Crampton, O. A. Cummings, H. H. Coppock, J. C. Dunham, E. C. Diltz, J. S. Dollinger, G. S. Dollinger, George Detrick, George Day, E. S. Dollinger, William D. DeBra, Daniel Deederm, William Davis, Ben Erisman, Joshua Furnas, C. B. Fletcher, Levi Faulkner, G. E. Faulkner, G. C. Frey, Martin Finfrock, Isaiah Finfrock, Alonzo Fox, Harley W. Furnas, H. H. Furnas, Harrison Fisher, S. B. Freshour, W. H. Furnas, Joshua Grubb, Hiram Hardesty, John Hilliard, George Howalt, Benjamin Hollopeter, A. J. Hartle, I. D. Heckman, A. C. Hall, Isaac Hoover, William Ingle, Orville Ingle, John W. Jones, J. R. Kauffman, Madison Kendell, S. B. Kepner, William Kiser, Lewis Kendig, W. F. Long, Morgan Leonard, Luther Langston, Henry Langston, John Marshall, G. W. Miller, David Minnich, John C. McAdam, Luther Neth, Oliver Nicodemus, David Oblinger, Ephraim Pearson, R. N. Porter, Isaac Penny, S. D. Palmer, A. M. Ruhl, F. M. Rankin, David Reese, J. R. Rench, Thomas Ross, Jacob Riley, Z. L. Ramsey, David B. Rankin, Jonas Smith, Charles Smith, Richard Schilling, E. D. Simes, Conrad Shelbuch, Jackson Shade, Valentine Smith, J. H. Smith, D. C. Shellanberger, W. H. Sowers, Michael Shuman, L. D. Smith, H. P. Smith, James Smith, G. W. Swadener, Henry Shafer, Samuel Ullery, J. M. Wright, A. J. Wallace, John Weaver, Jacob Wagner.

Bradford—Lawrence Addington, David Arnold, William Arnett, Samuel Bevington, George W. Belt, James B. Bell, Elias B. Coates, Benjamin A. Cole, Stephen Day, Israel L. Davis, George Ebberts, Martin Eller, Richard Esky, Leander E. Fisher, Calvin Green, George A. Gardner, William C. Heath, Clement Yost, Thomas R. Livingston, Charles B. Loomis, Harvey Midlam, Oliver Marlin, Daniel W. Pickering, George H. Potter, Claude C. Smith, Jacob Stubbs, W. M. Thompson, William C. Thompson, John Tinkler, George R. Wade, Aaron L. Wade, William Weaver, Clement Yost.

Casstown—Lewis Bane, Baryillai Dershem, Henry Frolicker, John H. Harbaugh, George W. Howett, Charles C. Henslee, Jonathan Howett, Samuel W. Helvie, Henry C. Knoop, David B. Knoop, Samuel Knoop, Charles M. Harbaugh, John C. Knoop, Samuel A. McIlheury, Benjamin F. Procter, George W. Rupert, Josiah Routzhan, John W. Simions, James E. Webb, Michael Wilgus, David Warner.

West Milton—Samuel Buffington, Lemuel Curtis, Jesse Johnson, Frederich Harshberger, Daniel Mote, John Worley, Theodore Zeller.

Ludlow Falls—Henry K. Arnett, Joseph Bond, Amos Clark, William D. Grove, John M. Gillespie, Jackson Iddings, Henry Iddings, Mark C. Jones, John Layer, Jacob Nealeigh, Lewis F. Niles, Enos Pemberton, Nathan Thompson, George W. Volger.

Kessler—Henry Beck, William G. Fox, Thomas J. Kessler.

Laura—Elmer Cummings, Thomas M. Corey, John Falknor, Jeremiah Fetters, John W. Graham, John C. Henderson, Albert Hart, Franklin Johnson, Harvey Klepinger, Chalmer Netzley, William H. Pearson, Francis C. Tucker, Robert Wiley, Jacob Fair, S. P. Miles, W. I. North.

Potsdam—Aaron Ditmer, Abraham Fry, Harvey Haworth, John N. Hall, Lewis P. Hissong, Thomas W. Wissinger, Charles Welbaum.

Fletcher—Horace Bileford, Erastus Covault, Michael Duncan, Thomas Ford, G. W. Gilmore, W. D. Kiser, Joseph Hetzler, I. N. Hall, J. S. Hill, William Lane, Clinton C. Motter, Cyrus Pogue, Andrew Ralston, Jonas Shellenbarger, Martin Smith, George D. Starry, J. J. W. Wade, John C. Wones, Thomas Wilgus.

Lena—William Buckels, Joseph S. Duer, Jacob Long, F. M. Wert, B. B. Wheaton, Harrison Williams, Joshua White.

Conover—J. K. Furrow, Maurice Frazier, Thomas Roberts, Silas Worthington, Brickner Williams.

Bloomer—Frank Roswell Green, Albert M. Routson.

Alcony—Van S. Deaton, David A. Meredith, George W. Collins.

Phoneton—George Brooker, William Dinsmore, David Shaeffer.

Brandt—C. W. Fisher, John Harbaugh, James Parsons, J. C. Starry, Daniel Swallow, Benj. Shiel, Joseph Wiley.

CHAPTER XI.

THE BENCH AND BAR, FAMOUS TRIALS, ETC.

First Court Session, 1807—First Grand JuryImpanelled—First Case Docketed—Early Lawyers—Manner of Holding Court in the Late Forties—Some Famous Cases—The Present Bench and Bar—Court Officers in 1908—Amusing Incidents.

Born of the backwoods and nurtured under difficult circumstances the bench and bar of Miami County have reached a prominence second to none in the State. Members of each have obtained a celebrity that has extended far beyond our borders and at the present day these legal organizations are noted for their judicial lore and forensic abilities.

In the humble home of Peter Felix at Staunton the first session of court was held June 23, 1807, the year of the formation of the county. The sessions were held in Staunton till November, 1808, when Overfield's house in Troy was transformed into a temple of justice. The surroundings were simple, the first court room no elaborate affair, and the few attorneys present were clad in homespun. About the court stretched the forest, rich in the varied garb of nature and abounding in wild game. The bridgeless Miami flowed unvexed toward the Gulf and the craft that cut its waters were the flatboats of the first traders.

At the first regular session of the court Francis Dunlavy presided and John Gerard and John H. Crawford were sworn in as associate judges. Cornelius Westfall was duly appointed clerk *pro tempore* of the court, which proceeded at once to business. The first official act promulgated by the bench was the taking of a census of the white male inhabitants of the county and the listing of all taxable property. Stephen Dye was the first sheriff and Arthur St. Clair, prosecutor for the State.

The impanelling of the first grand jury was a ceremony of considerable interest. Its personnel was as follows: James Blue, foreman, James L. McKinney, Henry Orbison, Joseph McKorkle, Henry Robinson, Daniel Knoop, Theodore Sanders, Michael Blue, John Huston, William Miller, Andrew Dye, Jr. Matthew Caldwell, John Wallace, John Jenkins, James Youart. Isaac Holt was constable. At the May term, 1808, William Barbee was added to the roll of associate judges and Isaac G. Burnett succeeded General St. Clair as State prosecutor. The first indictments found by the grand jury were against George Overpeck and Alonzo Shaw, both for assault and battery.

At the first regular term in September, 1807, the first case docketed was Nathan Hathaway *vs.* John McKinney and was a case of trespass in which the defendant asked for $300 damages. R. S. Thomas stood for the plaintiff and General St. Clair took charge of the defendant's interests. This case was dismissed at the following May term, each party paying half the costs. The launching of the first county court must have been an event of supreme importance to the people. It assured them that a new era had opened and that the new county had taken its place among internal commonwealths.

In course of time the number of attorneys increased. There were tedious journeys over poor roads to the county seat and these were performed in all sorts of weather. Locomotion, therefore, was slow and the early lawyers had ample time to think over their cases.

Mr. M. H. Jones, who was admitted to practice in 1848, gives an interesting account of his first journey to the county. After being formally admitted at Cincinnati and having purchased a few law books, he took passage on one of the old-fashionel canal packets and arrived at Piqua without so much as a dollar in his pocket. In the Border City he hung out his shingle and became a full fledged member of the Miami County Bar. At that time there were then practicing in Piqua James H. Hart, S. S. McKinney and Gordon N. Mott. Esben Adams and William I. Thomas were the attorneys in Troy. Mr. Thomas came in 1819 and Daniel Grosvenor in 1822.

Several years after the arrival of Mr. Jones in Piqua, J. F. McKinney and James T. Janvier came to the bar while George D. Burgess, Ebenezer Parsons, Harvey G. Sellers, Charles Morris, George H. Aylesworth and Henry B. Smeltzer represented Troy's legal contingent. Wilson F. Ross, one of the county's famous practitioners, followed soon after. Practicing at the bench of these times were some noted Dayton lawyers, among them Robert C. Schenck, Peter Odin, Joseph H. Crane, Daniel Haynes, E. W. Davis, John Howard, Wilbur Conover and C. L. Vallandingham.

The manner of holding court in the late forties was yet rather primitive. "On one occasion," M. H. Jones says, "the court came to Troy in their buggy in the evening and went to the court house and got all the papers in all the cases from the clerk, read them and considered them in their room at the hotel that night, decided them, putting a slip in each package announcing their decision, took them back to the clerk before breakfast the next morning, called his attention to their decisions and told the clerk to tell all the lawyers when they came in, and after an early breakfast started in their buggy to "hold court" in the next county. You can imagine the pious ejaculations of the lawyers when they came into court to try their cases."

In early times court terms were limited to two weeks and consequently the docket was always crowded. The system of pleading was under the old Common Law, the complications of which often tried the patience of the early bar. Divorce cases were few and far between and not many criminal cases were docketed.

Those were the days of meager fees; in fact, litigants as a rule were poor in this world's goods and therefore avoided litigation as much as possible. The first pleaders before the Bench of Miami County were men of worth and ability. There were the McKinney brothers, Col. J. H. Hart, Gordon K. Mott, Judson Cottingham, Jonathan Vaile, General Robert Young, Seth H. Wood, Benjamin Powers, R. P. Llewellyn Barber, Charles Morris, Harvey Sellers and Stephen Johnston. Courtly in their manners, these old lawyers made for the Bar of Miami County a reputation which has been sustained by their successors. Many of these were men of much erudition. They knew literature as well as law; they were as familiar with Shakespeare as with Blackstone and eloquence often flashed from them like sparks from a Toledo blade. It would be invidious to discriminate. The old bar of the county has disappeared. The temple of justice which echoed long ago to its wit and eloquence has given place to a new structure, but the record left behind by the first lawyers has not been lost. The last of the old practitioners passed with Major Johnston and J. F. McKinney; and M. H. Jones, the Nestor of the present bar, loved and venerated by all, stands alone to represent the glories of the older day.

There have come before the courts of Miami County several famous cases which deserve more than a passing notice. Perhaps the first of these was that of a man of the name of Armstrong, who was indicted for murder in 1816. The crime was committed near Piqua in a house which is still standing. The case, the particulars of which are lost, created a great deal of excitement and the accused was found guilty of murder in the first degree and sentenced to be hung, but afterward his sentence was commuted to a term of imprisonment. In 1855 came the celebrated Ragan case.

This trial was one of the most sensational ever held within the limits of the county. It was the first and last time a woman ever appeared before the bar of our courts with an offense whose surroundings were so heinous. Mrs. Jane Elizabeth Ragan, or Riggin, as the name is sometimes spelled, was a young married woman of twenty-two who lived in Piqua. She was a person of some attractions and intelligence. She was under medium size, fair complexion, bordering on the brunette, regular features, dark forehead, rather low, gray-blue eyes, voluptuous lips and possessed an organization and expression that indicated strong passions and great decision and energy.

Despite the fact that she was married she formed an intrigue with one James D. Mowry, who resided at Cowlesville, near Tippecanoe City. Whether Ragan suspected his wife's infidelity or not, I do not know, but Mrs. Ragan determined to make herself a widow without the sanction of the law. Mr. Ragan became ill and the services of a physician were secured. He grew rapidly worse and the circumstances were suspicious. It was suspected that he was the victim of a slow poison. When he was improving and gave assurances of regaining his health he was suddenly taken worse and died. In a short time Mrs. Ragan was arrested. The warrant was served by S. B. Garvey, constable, but as his time was about to expire his successor, Mr. Goggin, completed the necessary details. The arrest of Mrs. Ragan took place in April, 1855.

The accused was brought to Troy and lodged in jail. At that time Judge R. S. Hart was on the bench and M. H. Jones was the prosecuting attorney. The prosecutor was assisted by Ebenezar Parsons, who afterward became judge. The defense was conducted by John A. Corwin, of Urbana, James S. Hart, and S. S. McKinney. The jury consisted of Robert Johnson, Henry F. Zellers, Paul Pence, Menalcus Crew, Nathaniel Hollingsworth, Eli Pearson, Erastus Covault, Jeremiah Furrow, Garland Bruce, Joseph Harland, Abner Jones and Jeremiah Thomas.

James D. Mowry was arrested with Mrs. Ragan, but as there was no convicting evidence against him he was finally dismissed and the whole machinery of the law was put forth for the conviction of the woman. The trial, when it came up, was attended by great crowds from all parts of the county. The coldbloodedness of the crime commanded execration everywhere, for there was no doubt of Mrs. Ragan's guilt. A chemist had found in Mr. Ragan's stomach a sufficient amount of arsenic to have killed half a dozen men. What made the case of the accused so black was the fact that she was a member of church and a teacher in the Sunday school, and it was very evident that she didn't practice what she preached. She was a woman who dismissed for unholy love the religious tenets she professed and hesitated not to take her husband's life because he stood between her and the real object of her affections.

There was not the slightest doubt of Mrs. Ragan's guilt. In fact she made a confession, but as it was made to an officer it could not be used against her. While confined in the county jail a child was born to the accused woman and this offspring was nursed in court in order to secure for the guilty mother the sympathy of the jury. Never before had such a spectacle been witnessed in our courts. The trial was full of dramatic episodes. The case for the State was conducted in an able manner while all the eloquence of the defending attorneys was put forth to save their client from the gallows. The charge of Judge Hart was able and impartial and every one looked for a verdict of guilty. The state had fully proven its case and the defense itself had little hopes of securing an acquittal.

What, then, was the surprise when the jury filed solemnly into the court-room with a verdict of "Not guilty" falling from the lips of its foreman! It seemed as if a bomb had fallen through the roof. There was nothing left now but to turn the woman loose. The trial had lasted thirty days and for the State had been time wasted in the end. Slowly Mrs. Ragan passed through the press of indignant spectators and went her way. She remained not long in Piqua but went west, where she afterwards died. A few years after the trial she was accosted in Indianapolis by a person who knew her, but she denied her identity until convinced that she was really known, when she asked the gentleman not to expose her past life. With the exception of M. H. Jones, who prosecuted Mrs. Ragan, every one connected with the trial of this celebrated case has passed to the Great Beyond, but the memory of the trial is yet one of the *causes cèlébre* of the Miami Bar.

THE HOBATTA CASE.

It would seem from the outcome of the Ragan trial that the county had been afflicted enough in the miscarriage of justice. It was soon to have another trial none the less aggravating. In the summer

HIGH SCHOOL, PLEASANT HILL

HIGH SCHOOL, TROY

FOREST SCHOOL, TROY

EDWARDS SCHOOL, TROY

of 1859 two young men reached Miami County on their way home from California. One had been unsuccessful in his search for gold while the other had accumulated, if not a competence, enough to give rein to the generous impulses of his heart. These young men were Michael Hobatta and one Manning. The latter's home was in Kentucky, while Hobatta lived a few miles out of Piqua. They had been friends in the far west and Manning, taking pity on his companion, had generously paid his fare home. With the blackest intentions in his heart, Hobatta invited Manning to accompany him to the home of his (Hobatta's) parents before proceeding to Kentucky. This invitation was accepted, Hobatta pledging Manning that his father would reimburse him for his kindness to his son.

When the pair reached Piqua they started afoot toward the Hobatta home. There were persons who saw them on the road and noted Manning's joyous nature. Little did he dream that he was being tolled to his death by one of the most despicable wretches that ever infested the county. There is no telling at what time the demon, Murder, took possession of Mike Hobatta's heart. He not only coveted the wealth concealed on his companion's person, but he wanted also the very rings he wore. Almost in sight of the Hobatta farmstead the body of Manning was found. A bullet from a revolver had taken his life and the body had been left on the scene of the crime. At once a hue and cry was raised and as circumstances pointed in but one direction, the hands of vengeance were laid on Hobatta. Excitement became intense, and it is probable that the swift apprehension of the murderer spared the county a lynching.

The late Harrison Gale, of Troy, was constable at that time and he saw that the accused was promptly lodged in jail. Even then there were threats of an attack on that structure by the infuriated populace. After some legal delays the case came up for trial December 9th. Judge Ebenezer Parsons then occupied the Common Pleas Bench and the late James T. Janvier was the prosecuting attorney. Mr. Janvier called James S. Hart, an able lawyer, to his assistance, while Samuel E. Browne took charge of the defense. Not for a moment did the excitement over the case abate. Ithamar McDowell, a returned gold seeker who knew Manning, visited Hobatta in the county jail and identified a ring on the prisoner's finger as belonging to Manning.

The jury selected to try Hobatta was as follows: J. H. Mitchell, John Wolcott, James Cable, J. C. Mitchell, Henry Cox, John H. Woodward, Robert Buckels, Joseph Coppock, James R. White, Aaron R. Murphey, Robert W. South and Levi Coffield.

It would seem from the evidence, which was circumstantial, but without a missing link, that death would surely be the doom of the accused. He demeaned himself both in jail and in the court-room as a merciless wretch, having little to say, owing perhaps to his nature. His attorney presented his case as best he could and in an able manner. The state labored hard to convict the prisoner, the prosecutor making an able argument, in which he was seconded by the able Hart. All their efforts were, however, in vain. The jury after some hours of discussion brought in a verdict of murder in the second degree and Hobatta's life was saved. It is impossible to describe the indignation that possessed the people of the county at this verdict. In Kentucky at Manning's home Hobatta was hung in effigy and the excitement was intense. The jury was hotly censured.

The prisoner was taken to the penitentiary at Columbus to begin his life sentence. He served a term of eleven years when he received the benefit of executive clemency and was set free. Although years had passed since his conviction Hobatta was ostracised by his former friends and was driven from their presence when he attempted to take up his old life among them. Forsaking the scenes of his boyhood, he went into an adjoining state, where perhaps the great crime of his life was unknown, and he eventually died in a strange community. It was not the ending that he deserved, for the death penalty should have been meted out to him for his atrocious crime.

THE BROWN-BOLLMYER CASE.

During the days of the Civil War, a tragedy growing out of the animosities of politics took place in Dayton. A newspaper called "The Empire," antagonistic to the Government, was published there by a man named Bollmyer. Political feeling at that time was high. It was the home of Vallandigham and his disloyal sentiments had embittered the Union people against what was then known as the Copperhead Party. In Dayton lived one Brown who kept a hat store and who was an ardent Union man. One evening the personal and party quarrel between the two men terminated in blood. Brown went to Bollmyer's house, and, calling him to the door, shot him dead on the sidewalk. This act stirred the city to its very foundations. Brown was placed in jail and a mob was formed among Bollmyer's friends to take him out and lynch him. Brown was brought to the Miami County jail for safe keeping and, a change of venue being secured, he was tried in the old court house in Troy.

The bitter feelings engendered by the war made the trial a noted one. There was little question as to Brown's premeditation. The court house was filled to overflowing during the trial, which lasted some days, and resulted in the prisoner's acquittal. It was thought for some time that his life was in danger by Bollmyer's friends, but he was not molested and a few years later he was found dead in a field, his life having been taken by apoplexy.

THE MITCHELL TRIAL.

After this exciting case the Miami County Court room witnessed no stirring trial till the arrest of George Mitchell, colored, who was charged with the murder of his wife. The Mitchell case is celebrated from the fact that it terminated in the only legal execution ever held in the county. This case came to trial in 1880. Judge H. H. Williams presided and Moses B. Earnhart was prosecuting attorney. The late Daniel C. Miller was sheriff. Mitchell was a blacksmith, but was not considered vicious. Claiming that his wife was not faithful to him, he one day attacked her with a corn-cutting knife and inflicted wounds from which she died. After committing the terrible deed Mitchell made his escape and was not apprehended till months afterward, when he was found at work in another county of the state. He was arrested, brought to Troy and placed in jail. Calvin D. Wright became his attorney. Brought to the bar of the Common Pleas Court he entered a plea of not guilty and the trial began.

The shocking details of the murder aroused public interest and the court room was daily crowded. The jury brought in a verdict of murder in the first degree and Mitchell was sentenced to be hanged. The day for the execution was set, but Governor Charles Foster permitted a postponement while the attorneys labored hard for a commutation of sentence. Their efforts availed nought, however, and on the 17th of September the execution took place amid dramatic scenes in the jail yard at Troy. It was a day long to be remembered throughout the county. The county seat was thronged with people who came from every part of the county as well as from other parts of the state. The streets were patrolled by several companies of militia and scores of deputy sheriffs were sworn in to preserve order. Mitchell met his fate unflinchingly. After the execution the body was handed over to the family for burial and the first and last execution ever had in Miami County was at an end.

THE SHANK TRIAL.

In 1893 Jefferson Shank was brought to trial for the murder of his wife. This case became one of the most noted ever tried at the criminal bar of the county. The hearing lasted three weeks. Judge Theodore Sullivan occupied the bench and Thomas B. Kyle was the prosecuting attorney. He was assisted by ex-Judge Calvin D. Wright. H. H. Williams and Ellis Kerr defended the prisoner. The prominence of the prisoner's relatives added interest to the case. The evidence against Shank was altogether circumstantial and need not be related here. The verdict was "Guilty of murder in the second degree" and the prisoner was sentenced to the state penitentiary for life. A short time after his incarceration he became a "trusty" and eventually was the recipient of a pardon.

The foregoing are some of the famous trials held within the county. There have been others, but they do not merit space at the hands of the historian. Many of them have been forgotten and the record of others are buried in the dust of time. It may be said that while Justice at times has been "side-tracked," her scales have been, on the whole, well balanced at the county bar and that the evil doer has generally received his deserts.

The present bench and bar of the county reflect credit upon all concerned. The men who compose it are lawyers of ability and citizens of worth. From Judge Jones down they are worthy successors of the legal lights who brought fame to the county in the years that have passed away. Of the judges who have filled the bench within the last thirty years, Calvin D. Wright, Theodore Sullivan and Walter D. Jones are living. Judge H. H. Williams died a few years ago in Florida. Judge Theodore Sullivan is now judge of the Circuit Court, Second Circuit, and Judge Jones is the present judge of the Common Pleas Court of Miami County.

A century has passed since the first county court was convened. In that time the bench and bar of Miami have reached a place lofty in particular. It is noted for its learning and eloquence and celebrated for its legal lore. Its *personnel* will compare favorably with the *personnel* of any similar body in the land. It can look back upon a history of which its members may feel proud, a history covering the stirring events of ten decades. It is no longer the era of the old circuit-riding judges and the lawyer of few books and fewer cases. It is the day of the scholarly barrister, the day of the law library, of the generous fee and the intelligent client. It is a far cry from the bench and bar of Peter Felix's time to the present organization which dispenses and aids justice in the Temple of Justice, and when one casts a retrospective look across the space that intervenes he is impressed with the advancement made by the courts of the county. That our bench and bar will maintain its high standard goes without saying. Its future is bright and the county is proud of it.

Following is the present *personnel* of the Miami County Bar:

Attorneys—Edward H. Allen, Alfred M. Brant, George A. Brooks, A. F. Broomhall, C. N. Burns, A. C. Buchanan, E. M. Bell, G. W. Berry, A. B. Campbell, T. M. Campbell, S. D. Croft, John V. Daganhardt, J. A. Davy, A. W. DeWeese, U. G. Earnest, C. F. Faust, F. V. Flinn, J. S. Forgy, Charles E. Fox, J. C. Fullerton, Jr., Freshour & Freshour, M. K. Gantz, Gilbert & Shipman, F. C. Goodrich, W. A. Hains, L. O. Harbaugh, J. C. Hughes, W. E. Harness, E. A. Hiatt, Nate Iddings, C. B. Jamison, M. H. Jones, W. S. Kessler, A. H. Kessler, Kerr & Kerr, E. H. & R. A. Kerr, James Ward Keyt, Lindsey & Lilley, George A. Long, Thomas B. Kyle, William E. Lytle, J. H. Marlin, W. L. Martindale, Seth McCullough, J. L. McKinney, J. W. Morris, M. H. Nill, O'Donnell & Billingsley, Bert Reed, J. Harrison Smith, J. F. Spitler, L. E. St. John, Thomas & Thomas, W. P. Walker.

Officers of the Court, 1908-9—Hon. Walter D. Jones, judge; J. H. Landis, clerk; B. J. Johnson, Florence M. Fickes, deputy clerks; Renna R. Spitler, stenographer; W. E. Lytle, prosecuting attorney; R. H. Gibson, sheriff; P. H. Moyer, deputy; R. H. Southerland, bailiff.

A volume of anecdotes concerning the county's old barristers might be written and its perusal would be highly entertaining. In speaking of the celebrated "Bob" Schenck, Mr. Jones narrates how that old-time lawyer once broke down a witness on cross-examination.

"Schenck was once defending a case and the testimony was going dead against his client, and among the witnesses who were strongly against him was one John Maddux, of Piqua, a very shrewd, sharp wag, who was equal to Schenck in wit and resource, and Schenck announced to some of the lawyers that he was going to break Maddux down on cross-examination. So after Maddux was examined in chief, Schenck undertook the cross-examination in a manner that became offensive to Maddux, who imagined that Schenck assumed a superiority over him. Schenck led him through a long cross-examination in the details of the case and his testimony became harder on Schenck's client, and in a fit of anger and disgust Schenck, in one of his loftiest moods, turned on the witness and asked him:

" 'Now, Mr. Maddux, you have sworn to know a good deal about this case and testified very strongly—will you please have the goodness to tell me and the court how you know these things?'

"Maddux raised up and in the grandest

manner and the clearest voice, assuming social equality with Schenck, looking him squarely in the eye said: 'Why, Bob, I saw it with this scrutinizing eye of mine,' at which the whole audience, judge and jury, roared with laughter, all except Schenck, who in an angry manner said, 'The witness can go.' It was the lawyer broken down, not the witness.''

Mr. Jones was elected prosecuting attorney in 1851. He defeated the famous Harvey Sellers, one of the oldest members of the Miami County Bar, and was probably the first and only Republican who ever carried Brown Township, the Gibralter of Miami Democracy. The prosecutor's salary was then $225 per annum.

One of the old time legal geniuses of the county was R. P. Llewellyn Baber, of Piqua. He was gifted in oratory and his flights of rhetoric are indescribable. At one time he was to deliver a Fourth of July oration at Xenia and in order to create a lasting impression he prepared a very eloquent address. It was written to be delivered in the open air and was filled with allusions to the golden glow of the sunlight, the warbling of the birds, and the soft zephyr. As it was written so it was delivered, but the day was cold and dreary. The rain fell in torrents and a public hall held the orator. But undaunted he called upon his hearers to observe the sunshine, etc., which they heroically tried to do amid shouts of laughter.

An amusing story is told of William I. Thomas, one of the first members of the Miami County Bar. It was customary a number of years ago for members of the Supreme Bench to sit in various counties and hear cases. On one occasion one of these high officials was performing this duty in Troy. Mr. Thomas had a case in which he was deeply interested and while absent from the court room the court decided it adversely to Mr. Thomas. When he returned to the court room he said to the court: ''I would like to have a decision in the case of A *vs.* B.'' Thereupon the court replied: ''The case has been decided, Mr. Thomas, and adversely to your client.'' ''I shall carry it up to the Supreme Court,'' retorted Mr. Thomas, with a good deal of spirit. ''I want to see how the d—— case looks in a book.'' The gist in the old lawyer's retort lies in the fact that all cases carried to the Supreme Court are printed in pamphlet form for consideration by the highest tribunal in the state. There is no doubt that not a few cases are taken into the Supreme Court for no other reason than to see how they ''Look in a book.''

The members of the old county bar were men who would have made any bar famous. There was the suave, gentlemanly Janvier, who left the mercantile business for the law, the bright Burgess, who was ''careless in essentials and details,'' the philosophic Grosvenor, the elder Thomas, who possessed a deep legal mind, the reasoning and thinking Ross, the careful and scholarly Morris and the brilliant Sellers. ''The early Bar of Troy, where is it? Gone! gone whence? No response. The heart beats faster, the pulse quickens, the brain grows dizzy, the voice struggles to articulate the answer, but none comes. The early Bar of Troy has passed away; its members are no more; life's journey for them is ended, and that is all we know.''

CHAPTER XII.

EDUCATIONAL

The Log Schoolhouse Early Teachers—First Text Books—Methods of Discipline—Advent of the Salaried Teacher—Coming of the Graded School—Latter Day Improvements—Schools of Troy and Piqua—Educational History of the Townships—Parochial Schools—Teachers' Examinations—Results Accomplished.

In the present chapter I shall endeavor to describe the educational progress made in the county from the earliest times. The present splendid free school system is the outgrowth of the rude beginnings that followed the advent of the pioneers. The genesis of the magnificent educational structures of today was the log schoolhouses of the backwoods which lined both banks of the Miami. The professors of the present-day schools are the successors of the quaint old teachers who ''taught the young idea how to shoot'' and who believed almost religiously that to spare the rod was to spoil the child and the rod was seldom ''spared.''

It was not long after the coming of the first settlers that the schoolhouse arose in the forest. It was not the ''little red one'' used today in song and story, but an affair far less ornate, and in keeping with the times. The primitive ''house of learning'' has passed away, but excellent descriptions of it remain. As the pioneers built their cabins in close proximity, they began to look after the education of their children and for this purpose selected some central point in the woods for a school site, near a branch, for the convenience of having water near at hand for the use of the scholars.

''This being done the pioneers settled on a day agreed upon, turned out with their axes, broadaxes, plow and auger and met early in the morning at the selected site, others cutting logs near by in the woods, some felling a large oak for clapboards and still others cutting a sightly blue ash for puncheons, benches and writing desks. The building of the schoolhouse proceeded as rapidly as possible. The foundation was soon laid and four men were selected as corner men, who took their respective stations and saddled and notched down the corners as the logs were delivered to them on skids. When the structure was eight feet high the joists were laid, then the logs were shortened for the gable ends, sloping the ends and inserting the rib pole at the top. The upper log of the basement projected about eight inches to receive the butting or eve-log, against which the slanting roof rested. As the building was going up the cross-cut saw was heard in the woods, the mall and wedge severing the cuts, and the butts were removed to some fork of a tree near by where they were rived into boards four foot in length.

"Logs were next removed from three sides of the house and window styles prepared, which were adjusted in their places about sixteen inches apart, to which newspapers were pasted and oiled with 'coon grease' to render them transparent. The cracks being chinked and daubed, the floor laid, the puncheon door hung on hinges of wood, the writing desks were attached to the wall, resting on standers slightly inclining toward the scholars, who sat on benches and learned to write in front of the large paper windows. In this way the primitive school-house was reared and usually completed in a day without a nail or a window glass connected with the structure."

In temples of learning like the one just described some of the greatest minds of the country were shaped. Lincoln studied in a schoolhouse like the first that arose within the borders of this county. In the early days there were no contractors, no boards of education, to superintend the erection of the schoolhouse. The day of the graded school and the academy was far in the future. It was undreamed of by the men of the backwoods. The first schoolhouses of the county were few and far apart. In 1817 there were no schools north of Piqua and pupils were sent there from Fort Wayne, Defiance, Wapakoneta and other distant places. The children of the pioneers having some distance to travel took their dinners to school, which consisted of corn pone or Johnny cake, fat meat and some milk. They ate in the schoolhouse or on the sward that surrounded it.

What of the teachers who presided over the first schools of the county? What of the books used as compared to those of the present day? The teacher of the backwoods school that rose in the region of the Miami, the Stillwater, and in fact in every township of the county was a character. Very seldom was he American born. He was generally an Englishman, Irishman or Scotchman, seldom if ever Dutch or French. He was from the first *the* authority of the school room. His word was law and the rule which he exercised was seldom tempered with mercy. It has well been said of him that "he entered the primitive schoolhouse with an air of authority and woe betide the urchin who crossed his imperious sense of propriety. With gads and rods stored away in the sight of the school he was a terror to the school. For trivial offenses or small irregularities he inflicted corporal punishment and the hickory or beechen rod were never spared." In some cases pupils were tied up by the thumbs and whipped, and the writer's first preceptor was an Irishman who had the pleasing habit of dragging scholars from their seats by the collar and beating obedience into them with a four-foot gad.

These old teachers "boarded round" among the families of the neighborhood. They were looked upon as prodigies of knowledge. Many of them were superstitious. They believed in witches and ghosts and more than one weird tale they communicated to the assembled school. Spelling and arithmetic were the chief elements of their education and they instituted the spelling school, which of late years has gone out of date. On Christmas and New Year's eve the old-time teacher was "barred out" by the scholars. This was not kindly received by the master and when admission was refused he sometimes came down the wide chimney or landed in the school-room by breaking the greased paper in the window. Then he would be seized by the scholars, bound hand and foot and threatened with a ducking unless he treated the whole school to apple cider and ginger bread, which he generally did, after which the school proceeded as usual. Today

"The master sleeps upon the hill
All coated o'er with snow,"

but his method of training the youthful mind has not been forgotten.

The school books used at the dawn of education in the county have long since passed out of style. Dilworth's spellers, readers and arithmetics were among the first text books, also the American Preceptor, Webster's Speller, Pike's Arithmetic, Murray's Grammar and the Testament. Dear old Lindley Murray! The old inhabitants of the county still recall this first of grammars, which they pored over years ago. There is a story told of one of the early scholars in one of our backwoods schools who being somewhat dull could not master the jaw-breaking names of the three Hebrew children who were cast into the fiery furnace. When it came his turn to read aloud his Bible verse he discovered to his dismay that it contained those dreaded names. The boy hesitated. The Irish schoolmaster stood over him with the threatening gad in his hand. "Read on!" sounded in the boy's ears like the crack of the hazel. "Why don't ye read on, ye spalpeen?" With the expectation of the whip the trembling pupil, unable to recollect, or repeat anything, burst into tears and sobs and made an effort to explain his inability. "Well," moaned he, "Here are these three fellows again and I don't know them." The old master, not without some kindness in his heart, noticed the simplicity and honest effort in the boy, so making an effort to relieve the child's distress, said, "Why, boy, cannot ye mind them? They are Mister Shaderack, Meshack and Abed-ye-go. Now ye mought go on with your lesson and don't ye miss 'em again." It is safe to say that the pupil never did. The foregoing incident recalls the story told by Lincoln of his early school days of a fellow scholar who was always "stumped" by the same, to him, unpronounceable names. Seeing them in his verse the poor lad turned to Lincoln and whispered, "Abe, here comes those confounded Hebrews again."

The early pedagogues who presided over the primal schools of the county were considered *au fait* if they were able to teach the three R's, and with this slender educational outfit many a boy went out from these "forest academies" to make a name for himself in the world. In one of our first schools was an Irish teacher whose Milesian face was adorned with a toad-like nose. At this face a little boy of ten burst into a laugh and was promptly called into the frowning presence of the master. "What are you laughing at?" thundered the irate teacher. Tremblingly replied the boy, "You will whip me if I tell you." "And, you little fiend, I'll whip you if you don't," was the rejoinder, reaching for his well-trimmed hickory. With sincerity and a little heart filled with fear the boy answered, "Well, master, I was laughing to think how much your nose looks like a frog." It was just after recess and the boy had to stand by the master and at intervals received a dozen lashes laid on with all his brawny Irish strength until dismissed with the school at night. Such, in part, were the schools and pedagogues of the early days. In such schools and under such masters the children of the pioneers were trained. That training, simple as it was, and conducted under adverse circumstances, prepared the pupils for the active life that lay around them and transformed them into useful and prominent men and women. When one looks back upon the little log schoolhouses which dotted the hills and valleys of the county he is apt to regard them with feelings akin to reverence, though they long ago gave way to the more pretentious academies of learning which stand in our midst today.

The early school master was contemporaneous with the circuit rider, who will be described later on. Notwithstanding his surroundings, he did a great work and he is not accepted at his real value today. He labored under disadvantages which would have discouraged less purposeful people. The present school system is such a tremendous improvement on the primitive one that comparison is not necessary. In early times singing was taught in the schools and the old notes were used. Singing classes were formed and nearly every old-time teacher was considered capable of training the voice. Spelling and singing-schools were held in every district in the county. Paid schools were also in vogue during the educational growth of the county. This came about for the reason that there was neither school board nor public fund. Teachers were paid by subscription, which they solicited and collected for themselves, and their patrons were found good pay. Pupils selected studies to suit them and paid per term of thirteen weeks as follows:

For reading and spelling, $1.00.
For reading, spelling and writing, $2.00.
For reading, spelling, writing and arithmetic, $3.00.

A number of years elapsed before the salaried teacher came into existence. Even then the old teachers surrendered their ground with reluctance, for "boarding round" suited them and they looked upon the new regime with disfavor. Later still came the day of the graded school with its improvements we have today. The graded schools and the high schools found now in every part of the county seem to have reached perfection and owe their existence and success to the free school system that prevails everywhere.

We will now look at the growth of the school in various parts of the county. In 1804 there were but three families in what is now Concord Township, including the city of Troy. The town was not laid out until some years later and in 1813 Samuel Kyle opened the first school. This old preceptor was the grandfather of T. B. Kyle, Troy's present mayor. He taught in a log house without floor or windows, on the corner of Market and Water Streets. Not more than fifteen pupils filled his classes. In 1816 John G. Clark taught in the lower part of the town near the old railroad depot. Clark had queer ideas of punishment, as he corrected his pupils by splitting a quill and flipping it against the nose. It was before the day of steel pens and quills were universally used for writing. It is said that Clark's methods disgusted the citizens of Troy and funds were raised to build a small brick schoolhouse where the splendid Edward's building now stands. This house of learning went by the dignified name of "The Academy." Later on, or in 1826, Rev. Micajah Fairfield taught for a year or two and gave way to Thomas Barrett, afterwards elected a county judge, who was succeeded by John Petit in 1831. Mr. Petit afterward went to Indiana, where he became United States Senator. When George D. Burgess taught school in Troy, in 1839-41, his salary was $100 per quarter, which was considered very good in those days. Mr. Burgess taught algebra, geometry and Latin in addition to the common branches. The graded system entered the Troy schools in 1849, when Irving Gates was at the head of them. Gates had opposition in his work from a Mr. Bennet, who taught day school in the Wesleyan Church. These two schools were the outgrowth of contending factions in Troy and Bennet's scholars called the pupils of the other school Gates' Hinges."

These early schools of Troy have almost passed from memory and scant records are all that remain of them. They brought about the formation of a board of education, which consisted of Charles Morris, Rev. Daniel Rice, George D. Burgess, William B. Johnston, Benjamin Powers, Zachariah Riley and Henry S. Mayo. The election of this board was the signal for better schools. Six thousand dollars were voted for a more commodious school building and William N. Edwards was chosen superintendent at $800 per annum. Mr. Edwards was highly esteemed as an educator and many of the prominent citizens of Troy at the present time graduated under his instruction. From 1856 to 1867 there were few graduates from the schools of Troy. The members of the first graduating class were Walter S. Thomas, John W. Morris, Diana Meeks, and Augusta Brandriff, of whom three are still living—Walter S. Thomas and John W. Morris, residing in Troy, and Miss Augusta Brandriff, who is living in Washington, D. C. As the needs of educational Troy increased, new school buildings were erected, until now all are commodious and beautiful edifices dedicated to learning. Some of the later superintendents of the Troy public schools are Prof. H. A. Thompson, H. P. Ufford, John W. Dowd, L. V. Ferris, J. F. McCaskey, C. L. Van Cleave, and Ralph Brown. Prof. C. W. Cookson is now at the head of the Troy schools.

The first school taught in Piqua was under the instruction of Isaac Hendershot in 1808. From that time until 1817 the Piqua schools had quarters in a house that stood on Main Street near the site of the present city hall. It was a log affair chinked with clay to keep out the cold and greased foolscap supplied the place of window glass. This first house of learning had a large fire-place for the back-log, the floor was laid with slabs, and its roof was made of rough, unshaved clap-boards, stayed by poles. The furniture consisted of one row of writing benches, illy suited to the sizes of the pupils, arranged on the sides and one end of the room. They were made of slabs, and hewn-out pins entered into the slabs by a two-inch auger.

The famous "Academy" was completed in 1818 and in it the youth of the Border City thought themselves comfortably housed. John P. Finley taught the first school held in the Academy and among those who followed him was Daniel Mitchell, a brother of General O. M. Mitchell, a noted Union officer during the Civil War. In 1813 an incendiary, probably an opponent of education, burned the Academy, and a log church on Water Street housed some of the pupils for a number of years. In 1845 three district school buildings arose in Piqua and about this time select schools were taught in different parts of the town. These private schools were termed high schools to distinguish them from the common schools provided by law. In them the higher studies were pursued, such as Latin, Greek, higher mathematics, natural sciences and the mental and moral sciences.

The year 1856 saw the completion of the high school building. Prof. A. G. Chambers was the first superintendent. In 1860 Rev. C. W. Fitch, rector of the Episcopal church, succeeded him and Jonathan Fairbanks held the position in 1862. William Richardson, alumnus of Dartmouth College, followed Mr. Fairbanks, and he in his turn was succeeded by William Carter. Prof. C. W. Bennett, alumnus of the Ohio Wesleyan University, was elected superintendent in 1874 and held the place for thirty-two years. The present superintendent of the Piqua schools is J. R. Beachler. From early times the system of education adopted by the public schools of Piqua has been fortunate in the choice of instructors and the schools have reached a merited degree of perfection. A well known writer in summing up the educational growth of Piqua has worthily said: "The people of Piqua deserve commendation for their loyalty to the public schools and for the judicious selections of school boards whose members have labored with unselfish energy for the good of the schools. Supervision and systematic gradation many years ago ceased to be an experiment in this city and the common school system has webbed itself into the affections of the people. If the progress of the system be sustained with equal zeal and precaution in years to come we may look to the future for still greater and nobler possibilities."

This prophecy has been fulfilled in every particular and today no city of the state can boast of better schools or more competent instructors than those found in the Border City of Miami County.

In Monroe Township, which includes Tippecanoe City, the first school was taught in Hyattsville. It was in a log schoolhouse. This school was followed by another taught on what is known as the "Island," which was a small plot of ground separated from the mainland by a bayou. Beyond the fact that the first teacher here was a young man of the name of Gilbert, but little is known of the first schools in this particular locality. In March, 1853, the first board of education in Tippecanoe City was elected. It was composed of John McPherson, L. N. Booher, and D. H. Brinkerhoff. This board secured land on First Street and a commodious school building was erected. N. L. Perry was the first teacher in the town. This building was used till 1868, when it gave way to another, which in turn was succeeded by the present handsome high school building that houses the pupils of the thriving little city. The grading of the Tippecanoe school is the best that can be devised and the instruction which is ever kept up and maintained by competent instructors gives entire satisfaction to all. The Tippecanoe high school annually turns out a set of graduates well fitted for the emergencies of life.

For twenty-four years, or from 1808 to 1832, the schools of Union Township were taught in the old Friends' meeting house. They were conducted after the established manners of primitive schools. John Howe, an Englishman, taught here in 1808 and there remains to this day the recollection that he was a classical scholar and an adept at penmanship. It was customary for the early teachers to fashion quills into pens for the pupils, and as Mr. Howe had nimble fingers he was often called upon to perform this duty. In 1818 Charles Mills came to the fore as an instructor and a year later Daniel H. Jones followed him. Davis W. Thayer and David Mote came next with the unspared rod and Thomas Adams brought the early schools of West Milton to a perfection which they for a long time enjoyed. Adams was a man with an excellent education and drew many scholars from a distance, but it is said that he was deficient in school government and in course of time his school went to pieces and he disappeared. Following Adams came Charles Mills, Jacob Angle and Daniel Mote again. The latter had more than one faculty which he tended with assiduous care. He could build a house, survey land and write poetry. Some of his poetical effusions were long treasured by his pupils and may still be relics of old times in that locality. Gardner Mendenhall succeeded to the rod in 1827, and while he wielded it the authorities came along and hauled off his corn crop to satisfy a muster fine, whereupon he probably flogged a few pupils as a balm to his wounded feelings. During 1828-29 Alexander Wilson presided over the Union Schools and in 1830 James H. Hanks kept the fearsome birch. The last winter school was held at West Branch, where W. B. Jones, who came from South Carolina, inaugurated tickets of reward, an innovation which long ago disappeared from the schools of this county. Since then the schools of Union Township have risen to effectiveness and promise and today, kept in excellent buildings and with a graded system which seems to have reached perfection, they are well known everywhere.

The schools of Newton Township find their beginning in the cabin of Joseph Furnas and he was the first teacher. This was in 1808. Mr. Furnas could almost have organized a school from his own family, as he had seven children, and these, in addition to those of his neighbors, made up a fair school for that early day. It was not until 1811 that a real schoolhouse arose in the woods of Newton Township. Richard Clegg taught there in 1813 and Amos Perry and John Pearson succeeded him. In 1866 Sub-district No. 7, which includes the town of Pleasant Hill, was organized into a special school district, since when a large schoolhouse has been built in which the graded schools are today conducted in an able manner.

The early history of education in Newberry Township is somewhat obscure. So far as is known, the first schoolhouse was erected about 1815 and it was a rude log affair with the poorest of accommodations. The first schoolhouse stood near the north end of High Street in Covington. The second one was erected on the St. Mary's road. Andrew Ballard was one of the teachers in the latter structure. This house of learning was burned down. About 1818 John Barbour became the instructor of the

HIGH SCHOOL, PIQUA

HIGH SCHOOL, BRADFORD

SOUTH STREET SCHOOL, PIQUA

PUBLIC SCHOOL, COVINGTON

HIGH SCHOOL, CASSTOWN

SCHOOL HOUSE, WEST MILTON

young idea in the Trotter's Creek locality, and afterward one Benjamin Dunham taught in a deserted cabin in the same township. These old schoolhouses disappeared with the advancing years, giving way for more commodious ones. Among the other pioneers in the art of learning who held forth in Newberry were Moses Mitchell and William Dowler. James Perry was the first teacher to open school in the town of Covington and he was followed by Amos Perry and James Hanks. Since the very first Newberry Township has been noted for its good schools until today it is well supplied in that particular. Covington has a fine high school erected in recent years, and the high standard set by its educators years ago is still maintained. A comprehensive sketch of the schools of Bradford, including some early history of the town, will be found at the close of this chapter.

East of the river, where there are no large towns, the country schoolhouses followed rapidly the strokes of the settler's axe. Brown Township built its first log schoolhouse in 1811 and its presiding genius was a maiden lady known as "Aunt Sallie Tucker." She was probably the first female teacher in the county and her successor was "Aunt" Patty McQuillan, who is said to have wielded the rod with the vim and hand of an expert. Amos Denman and George Layman followed her and Joseph Rollins was the first teacher in the second schoolhouse erected within the limits of the township. In 1874 the village of Fletcher was organized into a special school district and a well graded school has been taught there ever since.

The year 1815 witnessed the beginning of the school in Springcreek Township. The first school held in the township was kept by one of the old time teachers named James Laird, who received $5 per month and "boarded round" among his patrons. Laird was an Irishman. Salivation had caused a deformity in his joints, which rendered locomotion painful and he took to teaching. Added to this trouble he was a devotee of the "little brown jug" and the way he laid the birch on the backs of his pupils is still remembered in the township. Between 1815-25 some of the teachers of Spring Creek were James Sims, George Lemons, James Cregan, Thomas J. Lash and Patrick Murphy. The rural schoolhouses in this township today are well-built brick structures and the schools conducted therein are the equals of any now kept in the county.

One of the earliest instructors of the youth in Lost Creek was Gen. John Webb. He was a man of considerable learning and became a man of prominence in county affairs. The early schools of Lost Creek were not of a very high order of merit if one is to judge from an item in the annual report of Thomas Long, "superintendent and visitor," of the common schools of Lost Creek, submitted many years ago. He remarks that "The order in the school is not good, too much confusion, but little government exercised by the teacher, very little exercise of moral influence, and but very little time is spent to convince the scholars of the propriety of such measures as would be conducive to their good."

Since the filing of this somewhat scathing report the schools of Lost Creek have improved until now they are among the most promising in the county. The Casstown school, now a high school, presided over by F. G. Main, has had a long list of teachers, among whom I find the names of Henry Jackson, Mate Scourse, Professor Patterson, Horace Maynard, Martin French, Alfred Knight, Washington Frizell, James Rogers, T. J. Webb, O. C. Gorman, Russell Allen, Kate Knight, Sarah Hamman, J. L. Wright and Warren Anderson.

When the pioneers of Elizabeth Township felt the needs of education they erected a log schoolhouse on the Christian Knoop farm near the Staunton line. Here John Enyeart presided and when not teaching he acted as justice of the peace and adjusted neighborhood quarrels. In 1812 John Schell taught on the Lost Creek crossing, when he was sober enough to do so. The school books used in Elizabeth Township were Webster's Speller, Dilworth's Arithmetic, the Bible, and other books not so well known. In these rural schools elocution was always taught and as Friday was the day set apart for this exercise the scholars vied with one another in declamation. With the introduction of the famous McGuffey series of readers the pupils found "pieces to speak" more to their liking, and "Bingen on the Rhine," "Casabianca," "Rienzi's Address to the Romans," became standard favorites. Prizes were often given to the best declaimers and considerable rivalry prevailed among the rural "orators."

Bethel Township has always set a high mark in the conduct of her schools. As early as 1802, years before the county was organized, a little schoolhouse arose on the Rudy farm and two years later a man named Kehan taught in the township. These first schools were carried on by subscription after the manner of the times, but in 1830 Bethel was divided into six school districts and the system of education became more pronounced. Later on the number of districts were increased. Township superintendency becoming necessary N. H. Albaugh was appointed superintendent in 1866, and in 1874 Hiram Brown was chosen to assist him. Mr. Brown was made superintendent two years later and under his supervision the schools of Bethel advanced to the foremost rank. Since that time they have become an educational power in the county.

There is no record at hand giving a history of the early schools of Staunton Township. It is safe to say that they were conducted in the line of adjacent schools, having the same complement of old-time teachers who looked after the growing mind on meager salaries and under many difficulties that beset the early highways of learning. When the first schools were established in Troy a number of the youth of Staunton attended, but later on the little schoolhouse came into existence east of the Miami and Staunton Township educated her youth in schoolhouses of her own. To-day each district is well governed in educational matters and the township can point with pride to efficient schools.

Within the last few years township supervision has been tried with good success. The supervisors are hired by the boards of education in the several townships and they visit and grade the county schools. Since the introduction of this system a marked improvement has been noticed in the schools. The supervisors, or superintendents, as they are sometimes called, receive on an average $45 a month. Some of them will superintend the schools of several townships. Singing is also taught in the schools in some special districts. Teachers of rural schools average $50 per month.

In addition to the common and high schools of the county, there are two progressive parochial schools. These are in Troy and Piqua.

St. Patrick's Parochial school, of Troy, is under the superivison of Rev. Anthony J. Mentink, the resident pastor. It was founded in 1886, by Rev. F. H. Bene. The addition of the present auditorium, with extra class room, was made in 1906 and fills all requirements. To-day there are three Sisters of the Precious Blood in charge of fifty pupils. This school is noted for its efficiency and is ably conducted by those in charge.

The parochial school connected with St. Boniface Church, of Piqua, is under the charge of Rev. George P. Steinlage, pastor. Its attendance is good and it has been brought to a high state of excellence. It is one of the recognized institutions of the city. The pastor is unremitting in his care of the school and the progress of the pupils is deserving of great praise. The St. Boniface Parochial School is one of the best of its kind in the state.

The teachers' examinations of Miami County are conducted by a board of examiners appointed by the probate judge. Two examinations are held each month, and certificates are granted. This system has prevailed for years and has been found efficient and popular. The examiners are chosen from the ranks of the foremost educators of the county. The present ones are C. L. Bennett, Covington; Charles H. Teach, Lena, and George Routzahn, of Staunton. Examinations are also held under the Boxwell law, which permits graduates from the country graded schools to enter the Troy and Piqua high schools, the expenses to be met by the several townships. On the whole, during the first century of their existence the public schools of Miami County have progressed to an amazing extent. Instituted in the backwoods, while yet the fear of Indian invasion hung like the pall of doom over the sparse settlements, they labored under difficulties that would have discouraged less worthy enterprises. From these pioneer schools came men and women who have proven the best citizens the county has produced, and to their lasting credit be it said that they left to their children the educational facilities which are enjoyed to-day. The county has taken no backward steps in the education of its youth. Its motto has ever been "Forward!" and with its large number of school children well housed and well taught, its future is not doubtful. Thousands of dollars are annually appropriated for education, and new school buildings are being constantly erected for the accommodation of the pupils. Corporal punishment has practically disappeared from the schools. This relic of the old days has fallen into disrepute and Byron's stanzas are forgotten:

> "Oh, ye! who teach the youth of Nations,
> Holland, France, England, Germany or Spain,
> I pray ye flog them upon all occasions,
> It mends their morals, never mind the pain."

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE SCHOOLS OF BRADFORD, AND EARLY HISTORY.

(Prepared by Nate Iddings; read at dedication of the new building, Saturday, Dec. 12, 1908.)

In 1861, about the time the Rebellion broke out, the C., C. & I. C. Railway Company saw the necessity of making a connection between the first and second divisions of their road at Richmond, Ind. Engineers were sent out to look up the best route, and they finally settled upon leaving the main track just east of Covington, called the Summit, being the highest point between Piqua and Covington. This line passed Covington on the south, and on through Franklin Township, Darke County, to Arcanum, and then on to Richmond. John Sowers, of Covington, then a contractor, having built a part of the old road, and having considerable influence with the railroad men, took the surveyors in his carriage and brought them west to the Darke County line, and suggested that it would be a good place to leave the main line and go to Richmond by way of Greenville, and it is said that he parted with a gold watch, and that Bradford was then and there established. The survey was made and the road built.

From that time on until 1867, there was nothing here but a wooding station. Trains stopped here in the woods for fuel. William Stump, with a tread horsepower, did the sawing, trains would stop and a half hour was used by all the train men in filling up the tender with wood, and if any tramp or wayfarer desired to get a free ride, he only had to throw wood for a few minutes.

In 1868 the bargain previously made was consummated. John Sowers purchased the Hoover farm for the company, and the Round House was built; a box car was set off on the north side of the track and was used as a depot. John S. Moore was an early comer, with a grocery store, quickly followed by Nate Iddings, with a general store. Solomon Routsong purchased a farm and laid out his plat, Moses Wise followed with his addition, and Bradford was then placed on the map. The name was suggested by Charles W. Wrapp, and he in the village, and S. B. Christian in the country, canvassed and had established a post-office, and Wrapp was the first postmaster. He carried the mail around in his hat and delivered to patrons, this being the first free delivery of mail matter, perhaps, in the county.

The children then attended school in Miami County, in a little brick house located on L. A. Dye's farm east of town, and in Darke County at a log school house, on the same site as is now occupied by the brick, No. 2. These schools were taught by country teachers, who had muscle—with plenty of beech limbs growing nearby. Bradford began to clamor for a school of her own. Perry Marlin, a farmer, was the director for this district in Newberry Township, and he wanted the town to get along with one room. Bradford wanted four, and they finally compromised on two rooms, which was the best that could be done at the time. The two rooms were built the next summer. They are still standing and were converted into a dwelling house by Henry Klinger. The very first year they were found to be inadequate, and the old skating rink at the north end of town was rented, and two grades met in that building.

The Rev. Mr. Best was the first principal teacher. He was a very excellent gentleman, but lacked government. Before the holidays his pupils became so unruly that it was necessary for the Board to interfere. A new set of rules were established, and school opened the next week with no better success. Some of the larger boys walked into school with their skates on, and while he was trying to maintain order, one of the larger boys struck Mr. Best over the head with a skate, and left the frame hanging around his neck. This was too much for Mr. Best and he resigned his position.

Dr. Renner and his wife, both well educated teachers, were hired to finish the term. They were from Brookville, Montgomery County, and came well recommended. The second day after he was installed three boys came into school with their skates on their feet. Mr. Renner looked daggers at them, but they paid no attention to him. When they were called to recite they walked out on the floor with their skates still on. The doctor did not say a word, but went to his desk, drew out a keen switch, and gave them each a complete thrashing, without any explanation, and sent them to their seats. The skates were quietly removed and business went on. Inside of two weeks all was harmony. About all he had to do was to pull down his eyebrows—and he had plenty of them—look the boy in the face, and he would wilt in a moment. He was re-hired and held his position as long as he desired, leaving it to take up the practice of medicine.

At that time the voting was done at Covington and Gettysburg. Nate Iddings and Frank Gulich organized the voting precincts, and against a good deal of opposition from the two towns—Covington and Gettysburg—had the village incorporated, and established the special school district of Bradford, Miami and Darke Counties, Nate Iddings making several trips to Columbus for that purpose. At the first election in the special district for members of the board, Dr. William Commons, Thomas Marlin, John O'Connors, Peter Smith, L. Van Trump, and Nate Iddings were elected.

At their first meeting they submitted a proposition to be voted upon to appropriate $25,000 for the purpose of building a new school house, which proposition was carried almost unanimously, and $25,000 in bonds were issued in denominations of $500 each and to bear 8 per cent interest. The first $15,000 were handled through the Stillwater Valley Bank, of Covington, Ohio, at a cost of $500. Iddings took the $10,000 at face value. It seemed to be an easy matter to get the money, but we could not build a house without a location. The little politicians had gotten up a strife between the north and south sides of town. All the churches had been located on the south side and they wanted to put the school house on a square below James Street, on what we call Oklahoma, near where Dan Evans resides. The Board was divided, three and three. After a long worry one of our men went over to the other side. Peter Smith moved out of town, and that left another vacancy. A meeting was called to fill it, and Commons and Marlin left town to break a quorum. We watched Mr. Marlin's house until eleven o'clock at night, when he slipped in and went to bed. We waited outside until we were sure he had retired, when we knocked at the door and his wife let us in. We organized a meeting and elected a man to suit us to fill the vacancy. The next day Dr. Commons returned and Marlin told him what had happened. He went to Troy that morning and enjoined us from building the house on the north side of the first division railroad tracks. At this time my companions deserted me and took the other side, with Dr. Commons as leader. I alone favored the present site. The injunction had not been dissolved, and there were grave doubts as to whether it would be sustained, and I had an equal opportunity to resort to the same line of tactics. I proposed to leave it to a vote of the people. This seemed to them fair, as they had the majority of the voters on the south side. The election was advertised, and held on a Saturday afternoon between two and six o'colck, in July, 1875. There were thirteen saloons in the village and they were all seen (?) the day before. We had carriages to haul our side to the polls. H. W. Smith cast his first vote that day, and the hustle that he put on has made him a winner ever since. Two hundred and thirty-eight votes were cast—137 for the present site and 101 against it, leaving a majority of 36 votes.

I tried to buy the whole park—about eight acres—but was cut down to about three acres by the balance of the board, they thinking we ought not to buy more ground than we actually needed. The house was built in 1876. George W. Mannix and Dennis Dwyer, of Greenville, were the contractors and builders.

We bought the ground of Moses Wise, and his son Samuel afterwards laid out the balance of the park in town lots. At that time the walk to the school lot was only six feet wide. The corporation owned the lot upon which the Drs. Minton now own and reside. I tried to get the council to keep it for corporation purposes, but it refused and built its council house on a little patch of ground on Church Street, back of Mrs. Shearer's lot. Dr. Minton contracted with the council for his lot, and I paid him $100 for ten feet on the south side, so as to make the walk sixteen feet wide. A new board afterwards returned to me the $100. The two rows of trees were planted by Daniel Seiders at my expense, and Dr. Minton had a vast amount of trouble in keeping the boys from swinging on them, for it seemed, even at that day, some of our citizens were opposed to having shade trees. They would not be there if he had not watched and protected them.

We prepared the plans and specifications for the building, and had a proviso that no extra should be charged without an agreement in writing with the board and signed by both parties. This precaution saved the district $2,500, which the contractors tried to collect. I had the honor of leading the honorable board to the spot and throwing out the first shovelful of dirt. Mr. O'Connors having moved in from the country, thought the first thing that had to be done was to clear the ground. His father, an old man, was living with him, and he sent him down for that purpose, and before I knew it, he had chopped down three of the finest trees on the lot.

You may travel Darke County over and you will invariably find that every school lot is denuded of its trees. The house was built the summer of 1876 and D. S. Meyers was installed as the superintendent, with a corps of five or six other teachers, principally ladies. Mr. Meyers served as principal for several years; during the last one considerable opposition developed against him. The board was unable to hire and it was left to the commissioners of Darke County.

They, after postponing the hiring all summer, selected Mr. Myers. The opposition was so strong and determined that the people refused to send their children to him, and they hired a special teacher and opened a school in an upstairs room in the Arnold Block. Mr. Myers graduated three pupils in the first class and had eleven in the junior class. The three first graduates were A. F. Little, Alice Stone Teeter, and Frank Sowers. A. F. Little began the printing business in the garret at his father's residence on a press that cost one dollar and fifty cents. He married one of the graduates of the second class, and they have had three children to graduate, and he is now the honored mayor of the village. Alice Stone Teeter married and lived in the village many years, and died, leaving a husband and two bright children, who are following the example set by her. Frank Sowers married and removed to Winnemack, Indiana. where, after an honorable life of a few short years, he died, leaving a wife and three children.

D. W. K. Martin, now editor of the Versailles *Policy*, succeeded Myers as superintendent, and graduated eleven, this being the junior class under Myers—six ladies and one gentleman. Martin was succeeded by Prof. Faul, who remained one year and was succeeded by Prof. P. E. Cromer, who had charge of the school for three years, and left to go into the practice of medicine. Cromer was succeeded by Prof. H. L. Yount, who made an excellent superintendent, having good control of the school, more on the military plan than the others; he left the school after four years of work, for politics. He was deputy clerk of Darke County, school examiner, prosecuting attorney of the county for six years, and elected as the Democratic senator of the twelfth district of Ohio by a large majority, when the district had been represented by Republicans for several terms preceding.

Yount was followed by Professor Maier, an excellent gentleman, who governed the school by love for the pupils. He left to take the presidency of Bryn Mawr, a school for girls in Maryland. His course there was brilliant but was cut short by his untimely death. Maier was succeeded by Prof. Morriss, who handled the school successfully for several years, and left to take a better paying position with the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Morriss was succeeded by Prof. Chrowel, who needs no eulogy from me. His many kind acts and deeds are indelibly engraved upon the minds and hearts of our people never to be effaced. Chrowel left to become cashier of the new National bank. He was succeeded by Raiburn, who now has charge. All of these professors had graduating classes, to the number of more than two hundred members, who are scattered all over the country, doing well in their different pursuits of life. I have not the time to speak of them individually.

It was said in arguments during the recent campaign against the liquor traffic, that one boy out of every five, and one girl out of every eight, went to the bad. I am glad to say that rule does not apply to the graduates of the Bradford school. In all my searches I have not found a single one but what has an honorable occupation, making an honest living, and a credit to the school.

Of the members of the Board of Education at that time, Peter H. Smith removed to his farm north of Clayton, where he died a few years later. L. Van Trump was a physician, and practiced his profession until his decease in 1901. John O'Connors removed to Greenville, where he went into the business of carriage making, and now resides in Chicago. Thomas Martin is now a resident of Covington. Dr. Commons is a retired physician living in Union City, Ind. He was very active in building, and especially in opposing the location of the school house on its present site. When I was appointed to write this sketch I tried to shift the matter on him, and received the following letter from him.

Union City, Ind., Dec. 7, 1908.

Mr. Nate Iddings,
Bradford, Ohio.

Dear Iddings—Your letter of the 6th inst. inviting me to the dedication of your new school house, and offering me one-half of your time, besides care, is thankfully received. I regret this very much, both from good will to you and because I believe that I could give your people some inside school house history, which would be new and interesting. Owing to injury received in battle, I have become so disabled as to need the care of another person. This makes going from home, and especially into miscellaneous company, inconvenient and unpleasant. My disability is altogether in my hands and arms, otherwise I am in excellent health. Thanking you again for your invitation, and with best wishes to yourself and your people, I am respectfully,

WM. COMMONS.

The house that we built is a thing of the past. It answered its purpose well. The two hundred graduates that we sent out well pays for the efforts that we put forth in that direction.

I want to congratulate you all upon the beautiful structure that we now dedicate. It would be a credit to any city. The architect, Mr. Jackson, certainly deserves our praise for the plans, and Mr. Ray Zimmerman for the construction and workmanship; the board of education for the agreeable manner in which they have worked, all with perfect harmony. The vast crowd here assembled shows the spirit of our people and the interest taken in the education of our children. The only part of my work left is the site for grounds. At the final round-up for the location, I was alone at the election; I had thirty-six majority. I was somewhat abused for the course I took, and I now want to leave it to a vote of this vast audience, whether I shall be sustained or not. All of you who are in favor of leaving it stand on the present site which I fought so hard for, please remain in your seats and look pleasant. Now, if there is anyone who wishes to vote to the contrary, he will please stand on his head. The proposition is sustained unanimously.

NATE IDDINGS.

CHAPTER XIII.

THE PRESS: LITERARY ACHIEVEMENTS, ETC.

Early News Conditions—Early Newspapers Destitute of Local News—Their Contents—Presses in Use—The Old Time Compositor—First Newspaper in Miami County, The Piqua Gazette—The Intelligencer—The Miami Reporter—Troy Times—The Miami Union—The Troy Sentinel—The Troy Democrat—The Daily Record—The Buckeye—The Enquirer and Piqua Journal—Miami County Democrat—The Helmet—The Daily Call—The Piqua Leader-Despatch—The Miami Post—The Reflector—The City Item—The Herald—The Stillwater Valley Gazette—Greenville Advocate—The Covington Gazette—The Covington Tribune—The West Milton Record—The West Milton Buckeye—Local Literature and Authors.

> "The Press! all lands shall sing,
> The press, the press we bring
> All lands to bless,
> O pallid Want, O Labor stark!
> Behold, we bring the second ark,
> The press, the press, the press!"

Prior to 1820 no newspaper was printed in Miami County; mail facilities were poor; the mails were carried on horseback and by the time the few newspapers taken by the people reached their several destinations the news was stale. It took a month at least to get the latest news from Europe, and local items were then unknown. Cincinnati, Columbus, and a few eastern newspapers were about the only ones that entered the county. These were filled with the doings of Congress, the quarrels of the political parties, and foreign affairs. Very few original communications appeared in the newspapers of that day. Now and then some would-be philosopher descanted on some favorite hobby to the extent of a column and more, and at the close left the reader as much in the dark as when he started. I have looked over the files of the old papers in the county during the first years of their existence and found no local news of any kind. The comings and goings of the people were not mentioned. The daily then was not dreamed of, and it did not make its appearance until many years after.

The first newspapers were printed on the old hand press, the famous "Washington," which is still to be found in some offices, especially in the South. Working this press required the strength of a giant and of course but one page of the paper could be printed at a time. There were few editorials those days; the editor, if such he may be called, used the scissors and the paste-pot and never troubled himself about "leaders" and the like. It required half the week to print the meager edition on the miserable presses then in vogue, whereas to-day the large editions of the present county weeklies and dailies are thrown off in an hour or two on the modern cylinder press. The names of the subscribers to the old-time weeklies were laboriously written at the top of the first page by the "editor," who frequently took a turn at the press himself. I recall the old press that used to be operated in the office of the *Troy Times* as late as the days of the Civil War, and I often envied the operator of the ponderous lever his strength.

In those days the industrious reporter was unknown. There was no county correspondence, no recording of neighborhood doings, no localizing at all. The old newspapers just plodded along. The publishers took nearly everything in exchange for subscriptions, wood, flour, garden produce, and even whiskey. There was no "display" in the few advertisements that found their way into the first newspapers of the county, and the knack of writing advertisements had not been discovered. There were advertisements of musters, strayed animals, runaway apprentices, and little more. I believe that the newspapers of the past were as much read by their patrons as are those of the present day, because they had nothing else to read, if we except the few dry volumes that looked lonely on the bookshelf of the home. The papers then were read aloud at night to the household by the head of it, including the month-old news that filled the narrow columns. News not over a month old was considered "fresh," and if a paper printed anything with no more than a week's age upon it, it was looked upon as a marvel of enterprise.

It amuses one to place side by side one of these old newspaper and the excellent county paper of to-day. But years ago the articles were written with a preciseness as to grammar and spelling, and the editor of the past was a man who prided himself on these things. He was always glad to get hold of an original article, and when some local poet burst upon the world and sent in an effusion, it was given a prominent place in the sheet, whereupon the author considered himself the equal of Milton or Pope. "Top of the page" and "next to reading matter" were terms which were not known in the editorial rooms till long afterward. The old-time compositor was usually a character. He tramped the country afoot, and when the editor was out of town, he "set up" the paper, worked the press himself, collected subscriptions and, in short, was the "whole thing." Some of these geniuses did not belong to the temperance societies and now and then the non-appearance of the paper was owing to their chronic "indisposition," to use no harsher term. The "tramp printer" has about disappeared, though now and then one puts in an appearance, works a few days and again becomes the "Wandering Jew" of the profession.

The first newspaper that appeared in the county was issued July 6, 1820, at Piqua. It went under the name of the Piqua *Gazette,* and its printer and editor was William R. Barrington. He was a Philadelphian. He was a man of considerable culture and his editorials were forcible and noted for their clearness. He became mayor of Piqua. Mr. Barrington continued the publication of the *Gazette* till 1837, when he sold the paper to Jeremiah A. Dooley, who changed the name of the sheet to the *Intelligencer*. Dooley did not conduct it very long, but sold out and the paper then passed through several hands and numerous vicissitudes till it became the property of John W. Defrees, who afterwards established the *Miami Union*, at Troy. Mr. Defrees sold the *Intelligencer* to Writer & Brading. The former soon became sole proprietor and when the war broke out he exchanged the pen for the sword, went into the army and served creditably there. The *Intelligencer* advocated the principles of the old Whig party, but under Mr. Defrees' management it became a Republican newspaper and continued so until it passed out of existence.

In 1822 the *Miami Reporter* was started in Troy by Micajah Fairfield. Its motto was "Be just and fear not." It was an eight-page sheet, and its subscription price was two dollars and fifty cents a year. The editor announced that "almost every kind of produce will be received at the market price for subscriptions." Since eggs at that time were three cents a dozen and chickens a drug on the market at fifty cents per dozen, with whiskey at twelve cents per gallon, it took no inconsiderable amount of produce to keep abreast of the times. In the presidential campaign of 1828 the *Reporter* advocated the election of John Quincy Adams, and some of its onslaughts on Jackson were sharp and vigorous.

When Mr. Fairfield grew tired of supplying his readers with mental pabulum in weekly installments he sold out to John T. Tullis, who published the *Reporter* for eight years, when H. D. Stout took charge of it. Furnas & Little and Marvel & Munson afterwards published it and it fell into the hands of E. C. Harmon, still living, who christened the paper the *Troy Times*, in 1857. It was published as the *Troy Times* till 1869, when it ceased as a newspaper. The *Times* was operated by Mr. Harmon all through the Civil War, and contained, among other things, many communications from the soldiers at the front.

In 1865 the present *Miami Union* was started by John W. Defrees. This gentleman opened a new era in Miami County newspapers. He was a lucid and fearless writer, a strong advocate of the principles of the Republican party, and drew down upon his head many sharp criticisms from members of the opposing political party. Once when a subscriber demurred to some of Mr. Defrees' editorial utterances and burst into the sanctum with, "I'm going to stop the *Union!*" Defrees calmly scratched his name from the books, escorted him into the printing room, and pointing to the press at work, said with a smile, "You see, sir, that the *Union* is still going right along." Mr. Defrees remained at the head of the *Miami Union* until his death, when his son, Lucius L., took charge of it and ably conducted it for some years. After the death of L. L. Defrees it passed under the control of the Miami Union Publishing Company, at the head of which is Walter S. Thomas. The *Miami Union* enjoys the largest weekly circulation patronage of any newspaper in the county, having a large corps of neighborhood correspondents who cover the entire local field and make the paper bright and newsy.

The *Troy Sentinel* was first published in 1871 by J. A. McConahey, but it soon passed into the hands of J. M. Kerr, who published it to its discontinuance in 1880. Its materials were then purchased by the Imperial Publishing Company and the name changed to the *Troy Imperial.* The paper did not exist very long and soon ceased to be published. Another newspaper called the *Weekly Bulletin* was published for a time by the Bidlack Brothers, had a short life and was no more. Later on the *Troy Chronicle* and *Daily Trojan* were published by Dr. C. H. Goodrich, but after a brief and stormy existence they fell into the hands of Frank Lowing and were no longer published.

The *Troy Democrat* was issued first by J. P. Barron, who ran it ably for some years as an exponent of the principles of the Democratic party. This newspaper is now published by Charles H. Dale and enjoys a large circulation and an extensive advertising patronage. It is one of the neatest and most progressive Democratic weeklies in Ohio and the office has all the facilities for excellent newspaper and job work.

Twelve years ago the *Daily Record* was established by the Croy Brothers and has continued to the present day. It has proved the only successful daily of the several that have been started in Troy. It enters nearly every home in the city and is much sought after. The *Daily Record* is Republican in principle and takes an active part in all political campaigns.

The year 1891 found the late Captain Elihu S. Williams at the head of the *Buckeye,* a weekly with a purpose. Captain Williams was perhaps one of the most able and fearless editors that ever wielded a pen in the county. When he had anything to say he said it in a manner that admitted of no dispute. Under his management the *Buckeye* soon became a power in the county and it was amid general regret that he quitted the editorial helm. He sold the newspaper to O'Kane & Huffman. In 1902 Captain Williams again took charge of the paper and was editor of it when he died. Afterward it was published by Captain Williams' daughter, Miss Olive, who conducted it on the admirable lines established by her father till its purchase by the present proprietor, Mr. H. A. Pauley. The *Buckeye* was a regular storehouse for local and pioneer reminiscences and cultivated a field not cultivated by any other newspaper in the county. It enjoys today a good patronage and is well and intelligently edited.

Returning to Piqua, the first Democratic newspaper that was edited and published by David M. Fleming in 1847. It was first published as the *Enquirer,* but in 1860 Mr. Fleming changed his politics from Democratic to Republican and the *Enquirer* became the *Piqua Journal.* He published the paper till his death, when a stock company bought it, with E. M. Wilbee at its head, but the new regime was short lived.

The *Miami County Democrat* made its appearance in 1860, under the management of Horton & Teverbaugh, both of whom went into the army, when the paper was published by Samuel C. Cole, and subsequently by the Smiley Brothers. *The Helmet* afterwards came into existence, under the editorial management of Isaac S. Morris, a Republican and a strong advocate of temperance principles. *The Helmet,* under Mr. Morris' editorial supervision, was ably conducted and at one time had a large circulation. From the same office there was issued later on the *Daily Call,* owned by the late John W. Morris, but now controlled by other parties. The *Call* is edited by Mr. H. R. Snyder, an experienced newspaper man, who has edited the Dayton *Journal* and other newspapers of more or less note. Under his management the *Call* has been brought into the front rank of interior dailies and maintains a high degree of excellence.

The Piqua *Leader-Dispatch,* daily, is edited and controlled by Henry Kampf, one of the most virile of the younger class of newspaper editors in Ohio. Kampf is a good editorial writer, fearless and aggressive and often throws his gauntlet into the newspaper arena by way of challenge. Under his supervision the *Leader-Dispatch* has become well known, not only in the county, but in every part of the State. It has a large circulation and is eagerly read by members of both political parties, though it is radically Democratic in principle, while its rival, the *Call,* espouses the Republican cause.

The only German newspaper in the county, the *Miami Post,* is published at Piqua, by A. Bartel. This newspaper circulates largely among German citizens and enjoys the good will of all.

As early as 1853 Tippecanoe City had a weekly paper named the *Reflector*. It was published by one Hudson, and after a brief existence it went out of business. It was followed some years later by the *City Item,* which, like its predecessor, the *Reflector,* dropped into an unknown grave. In 1869 Col. J. H. Horton issued the *Herald,* which he conducted till 1880, when Caldwell & Co. took charge of it. After passing through the usual vicissitudes incidental to newspaper life, the *Herald* fell into the hands of the present management. It is now edited by J. Maurice Ridge. The *Herald* is a strong Republican newspaper and enjoys a good circulation, especially in the southern part of the county.

S. W. Ely, one of the best known newspaper men in southwestern Ohio, established the *Stillwater Valley Gazette* at Covington in 1870. In May, 1883, W. F. and Robert Cantwell bought out the *Gazette* and continued its publication in Covington. Until the above date the *Gazette* had been published by W. A. Browne, now owner and editor of the *Greenville Advocate.* The Covington *Gazette* circulates everywhere through the Stillwater region. Robert Cantwell died in 1908, and the newspaper is now in charge of his brother and partner, William. The Covington *Tribune* is another of the Stillwater Valley weeklies that has made good. It is a newsy, well edited sheet, making no loud pretensions, but an excellent journal, however, and well edited by J. H. Marlin.

The present West Milton *Record,* by the Radabaugh Brothers, has no rival on the west side of the county. It is a neat appearing weekly and receives the patronage it richly deserves. A few years ago Dr. Pearson conducted the West Milton *Buckeye,* which was sold to Captain E. S. Williams and moved to Troy, where it is still published. Dr. Pearson moved to Ann Arbor, Michigan, where he has resumed the practice of medicine.

The foregoing is a list of the newspapers that have been and are published within the limits of the county. During nearly a century of editorial toil and trouble, the press of Miami County is to be congratulated upon its good work and the success it has had in furnishing reading matter to the masses. It long ago passed through the incipient stages of newspaperdom to emerge into brighter and more profitable fields. Not all the newspaper ventures have lived or thrived, but the fittest have survived and so far as is known, their present appearance indicates prosperity. The citizens of the county are a reading and intelligent people and there is probably no home within the borders of Miami that some local paper does not enter.

LOCAL LITERATURE.

In the production of general literature the county, during the first hundred years of its existence, has not been very prolific. Few books have been written and published by home authors. I have searched the literary records from the earliest years and find the name of home bookmakers very scarce. The late G. Volney Dorsey was perhaps the first citizen to put forth a book. Dr. Dorsey was a gentleman of the highest culture and a deep scholar. He published many years ago a free translation of some of the famous Greek poets, a work which evinced much learning. In later years Mrs. W. C. Rogers (Margaret Douglass) issued a volume of verse, as did Miss Adeline E. Gross, while Mrs. J. F. McKinney published some interesting local reminiscences and Miss Fanny Fleming published an account of her travels in Europe in book form. This seems to have been Piqua's contribution to general literature.

Judge A. L. McKinney, of Troy, wrote two books, one of which was a life of I. N. Walters, a prominent minister of the Christian Church, and Rev. J. P. Watson published "The Light of Other Days." N. H. Albaugh, from the southern part of the county, issued a poetical volume entitled "Wayside Blossoms," and Boyd E. Furnas, of Newton Township, put forth "Poems of Heart and Home." Lawrence G. Gates, of Tippecanoe City, wrote and published a little volume called "Musings," which met with local success. Of the local authors east of the Miami, T. C. Harbaugh, who adopted literature as a profession in 1867, has published three books of poems, viz.: "Maple Leaves," "Bugle Notes of the Blue" and "Lyrics of the Gray," besides many serials, short stories and poems. J. M. Kerr, a former citizen of the county, has edited and compiled numerous standard law books, and his brother, J. A. Kerr, of Tippecanoe City, has had published a historical novel which was favorably commented upon by prominent critics.

In 1885 Mrs. Sarah Furnas Wells, M. D., a Miami County woman by birth and education, returned to the home of her girlhood and published a book of travels entitled "Ten Years' Travel Around the World." This book told of journeys in Europe, Asia, North and South America. It is well written and is a most entertaining account of the people of many lands. Mrs. Wells is now lecturing. Horace Rollins, artist and author, has also issued a book.

The above appears to be the whole literary output of the county since its formation. Many interesting reminiscences have appeared from time to time in the local press. Some of these should have appeared in book form, but the modesty of the authors doubtless prevented. About 1828 there arose in the county a local poet who rejoiced in the not very euphonistic name of Benjamin R. Bulfinch. He wrote rather voluminously for the local press at the time, and his contributions were always accorded a generous welcome. His poems have never been collected, and even the author's name is forgotten. He touched upon almost every subject, but there were times when his muse became Anacreonic, as witness the following poem, which appeared in the *Troy Reporter* in August, 1828:

TO MYRA.

Wert thou an artless village maid,
  And I but an humble swain,
To only share with thee, yon glade,
  Would rapture be to power or gain.

Beyond the blue Atlantic wave,
  Blest would I be with thee to rove!
To decorate our simple cave,
  And taste again the sweets of Love.

Did I possess Golconda's mine,
  Fair India's domain all my own—
Circassian beauties look divine,
  But you should grace my diamond throne.

Of valour, were those charms the prize,
  Thy shaft, O Death! I would defy;
Approved only in thine eyes,
  Would live with thee, or for thee die.
—Benjamin S. Bulfinch.

Whether the beautiful maiden who inspired the foregoing verses by the heart and hand of the first Miami County poet became Mrs. Bulfinch or not history does not record; but she must have been indifferent to the wooings of her troubador if her heart was not melted into love by his "passionate" stanzas!

CHAPTER XIV.

AGRICULTURE

Primitive Farm Machinery of Pioneer Days—Lack of Transportation Facilities—The Early Farmers Without Wagons—Improvements Gradually Introduced—The First Crops Grown in Miami County—Livestock Easily Raised—Orchards Planted—The First Agricultural Society—Miami Represented at the State Pomological Exhibition in 1851—The Miami County Agricultural Society—Fair Grounds Purchased—Present Condition of the Society and Roster of Officers—The Grange Movement—The Farmers' Institute—The Miami County Horticultural Society—Farm Products of Miami County—Stock Breeding.

The pioneers of Miami County devoted themselves principally to agriculture. The majority were tillers of the soil and brought with them from their former homes the industrious habits that mark the successful farmer. Those who came from east of the Alleghanies had but little to learn in the wilderness of the Miami, while the immigrants from the South were largely cotton producers and not used to the sturdier system of farming which awaited them in the North. The southern pioneers soon adapted themselves to the habits of the new region and became, in time, the most progressive farmers of the early day. Many of the settlers brought with them the agricultural implements of the times. These were exceedingly primitive as compared with the improved farm machinery of the twentieth century. The wooden moldboard was then in existence, the grain was cut with the sickle and either flailed or tramped out in the first barns of the county. The progress made by the early agriculturist with his simple implements excites amazement now. He was handicapped in many ways, not only by a paucity of machinery, but the sore needs of good markets. The nearest places at which he could dispose of the produce of the little farm were Dayton and Cincinnati. His products had to be hauled to market by wagon or flat-boated down the Miami to the two places, then in their commercial infancy. Prices were low, but the farmer's needs were few and he was satisfied with the fruits of his labor. The few mills in the county gradually took up some of the produce, but it was usually set apart for home consumption. Boys were sent miles through the woods on horseback carrying sacks of grain to the pioneer mills and waiting there, sometimes for several days, till the grists were ground, when the return was made.

For a long time the early farmers were without wagons. Not all of them had brought wagons across the mountain barriers. Those who did not, built wagons of their own. These were stout affairs, fashioned from the sturdy trees of the forest, with heavy wheels and ponderous axles, with great beds and other strong accessories, enough to test the strength and endurance of the teams which drew them over the poor roads that irregularly bisected the county. With all the difficulties that beset him on every hand, the pioneer farmer got along very well. He widened the scope of his labors as his scant means permitted. He added to his agricultural domain, taking up the best land and, as his boys grew to manhood, farmed the whole of it.

In course of time the cabin which had graced the clearing gave way to a better habitation, a frame house with real glass in the windows and good carpets on the floors—the product of the weavers' looms—of which a number sprang up in every township. It must be said that some of the first farmers were ingenious artisans, for not a few of the early farm houses are still standing. These structures were well built and quite roomy. Building material was cheap and always at hand. All that was needed was the labor, and that was ever ready. When the harvest was to be cut, the farmer found neighbors who stood ready to help get it in and the assistants were repaid in kind. As has been stated, the sickle was the first harvest implement, but the scythe soon followed it and this was considered a wonderful improvement in agricultural science. It took stout arms to sweep the scythe through the heavy grain that covered the Miami bottoms, and some of these scythe wielders became marvels in their way.

The principal kinds of grain produced at the dawn of local history were Indian corn, wheat, rye, oats and barley. Indian corn was to be found on every farm. It is said to have yielded from sixty to one hundred bushels per acre, but the average crop for the whole region was about forty-five. Wheat was raised almost as generally as Indian corn. Twenty-two bushels may be said to have been the average crop, though at times forty bushels per acre were produced. The bearded wheat with reddish chaff was preferred, as least liable to injury from the Hessian fly and weavel, two pests which were known in the county as early as 1815. The cultivation of rye was much more limited, as it was only employed in the distillation of whiskey and as provender for horses. For the former purpose it was mixed with Indian corn. Its average crop was about twenty-five bushels per acre. The common crop of oats was about thirty-five bushels, and that of barley thirty. The latter was not extensively cultivated before the erection of two large breweries at Cincinnati, into which the barley product of the county went.

Another thing raised by our first farmers was flax. A good many flax fields were to be seen and flax raising became quite an industry. It will be recalled that the Dilbones were working in their flax field when attacked and killed by Indians. Hemp was cultivated to some extent in the bottoms until a depression in price, when the raising of it was discontinued.

The early meadows of the county were luxuriant and produced wonderfully. Timothy, red and white clover and spear-grass were cultivated. Timothy and clover then produced about two tons to the acre.

Farmed meadows were not used as pastures, because in the early stages of agriculture in the county the woods abounded in grass and herbage proper for the subsistence of cattle. The various prairies supported hogs, which grew and fattened on the fleshy roots, so that the raising of pork required no particular attention.

Some land in Miami County which today commands $100 per acre was originally purchased for twenty dollars per acre. In remote sections it could be had for ten dollars. An average for the settled portions of the county, supposing the land fertile and uncultivated, may be stated at eight dollars; if cultivated, at twelve. The alluvial or bottom lands commanded the best price. The dry and fertile prairies were esteemed of equal value. Next to these were the uplands supporting hockberry, pawpaw, honeylocust the sugar tree and different species of hickory, walnut, ash, buckeye and elm. Immediately below these in the scale of value was the land clothed in beech timber; while that which produced white and black oak chiefly commanded the lowest price of all. After the War of 1812, when immigration received a new impulse, the nominal value of farm land advanced from twenty-five to fifty per cent.

One of the first things that commanded the attention of the pioneer farmer after he had erected his cabin home and broken ground was the planting of an orchard. It was soon discovered that the apple would thrive in Miami County. Some of the immigrants had brought the infant trees with them and these were set out where it was thought they would thrive best. It was also found that peaches, pears, cherries and plums produced well in our climate and these were introduced to increase the fruit supply. It is not known whether that strange and harmless man called Johnny Appleseed ever reached the county domain, but doubtless people who obtained seed of him afterward settled here and thus added to the fruit production. In those days there were no traveling tree agents to supply the farmer with all sorts of ''brush,'' consequently the first agriculturists were thrown upon their own resources in the way of orchard planting.

Until 1846 there had been no thought of an Agricultural Society. In fact the situation did not demand one. As the county advanced in agriculture the needs of an institution of this kind became apparent. In the year above mentioned the *Troy Times* published a call for the people to meet to discuss the proposition to form an agricultural society. This meeting was held in the office of John G. Telford at Troy. Many of the best known citizens of the county attended, and a good deal of enthusiasm was manifested. It was decided to organize a society and William Giffin, David H. Morris, William I. Thomas and William B. McClung were selected to draft a constitution and by-laws for the proposed organization. A few days later, September 26, 1846, the committee reported; the report was followed by an organization and the following persons were elected officers of the first Miami County Agricultural Society: President, William I. Thomas; vice-presidents, William C.

Knight, Cyrus Heywood, David Jenkins; corresponding secretary, D. H. Morris; recording secretary, G. D. Burgess; treasurer, Jacob Knoop; librarian, H. D. Stout; committee on agriculture, John Hamilton, chairman; Daniel Brown, James McCain, Zimri Heald and William Giffin.

The first article of the constitution announced that the association should be called the Miami County Agricultural Society, the second defined that the object of the society was "the circulation of general intelligence and practical instruction in all the branches of agriculture," by the establishment of a correspondence with other bodies seeking the same object, by procuring the most rare and valuable kinds of seeds, plants, shrubs and trees, by the establishment of exhibitions at which premiums shall be awarded for the improvements of soil, tillage, crops, manures, implements of husbandry, stocks, articles of domestic industry, and such other articles, productions and improvements as may be deemed worthy of encouragement; and the adoption of other means for the general circulation of knowledge on the subjects embraced by the Society."

It was also included in the Constitution that "any person may become a life member of the society by the payment of ten dollars into the treasury at any one time."

Substantially the by-laws of the society provide: That each member shall pay one dollar annually into the treasury, that no money shall be paid by the treasurer unless upon a written order of a majority of the directors, and that the society shall, in addition to annual meetings, hold three other meetings on the first Thursday of the months of December, March and June in each year for the purpose of hearing addresses, discussing questions and receiving reports on the several subjects embraced by the society. Subsequent to the adoption of the original constitution and by-laws numerous changes have been made in the way of amendments. What has become of the library purchased by the first fair board I have not been able to discover, but it is probable that not many of the volumes are in existence.

Much interest was taken in the Agricultural Society by the people of the county. It was one of the first bodies of the kind in this part of the state. In 1851 the State Pomological Society exhibition was held in Cincinnati, at which Jacob Knoop represented the Miami County Agricultural Society, and Dr. Asa Coleman was the first person to represent the new society at a meeting of the State Board of Agriculture which convened in December, 1850. Messrs. Knoop and Coleman were very enthusiastic members of the Society and did much to make it known beyond the county's borders.

In 1856 William Senior sold the fair board ground for the annual exhibitions of the Society and the price $1,520 was paid in three installments. The following year the society erected on its grounds a house for exhibition purposes and a year later adjoining counties were invited to compete with Miami at the Fair.

Set firmly on its feet by the energetic men who were at the head of it, the society made good progress. More ground was purchased from time to time and many improvements were made. The old grounds were situated on the vacant land in what is now the southeastern portion of the City of Troy, near the Miami River and the Miami & Erie Canal. The buildings on the grounds were poor and were soon found inadequate. In 1871 the present county fair grounds were laid out on land purchased by Mrs. E. McKaig and are now among the handsomest fair grounds in the state, being reached by steam and trolley lines and excellent turnpikes. Of late years much money has been spent in the beautifying of the grounds and for the convenience of the fair-going public. Some years ago the old manner of electing the directors was abolished and they are now chosen by the electors of the county at annual elections, two directors being elected from each township. The twenty-four directors constitute the fair board and elect the several officers of the Society.

The Miami County Agricultural Society, as constituted today, is the splendid outgrowth of the one established in 1846. It holds an annual fair which has become known everywhere, both for the variety and excellence of its exhibits and for other features not necessary to enumerate here. Its speed ring has gained commendable notoriety among fair goers. New buildings of modern convenience have been erected as the success of the fair demanded. The annual premium list of the Miami County Agricultural Society is large and well chosen and the character of the exhibits are second to none in the state. Following will be found the presidents, secretaries and treasurers of the county fair from its second year to date (the officers of the initial year being already given):

PRESIDENTS.

1849	William B. McClung.
1850	William B. McClung.
1850-51	Dr. Asa Coleman.
1852-53	William B. McClung.
1854-55	S. K. Harter.
1856	W. H. Gahagan.
1857	W. H. Gahagan.
1858	W. H. Gahagan.
1859-60	W. H. Gahagan.
1861	W. H. H. Dye.
1862	Isaac S. Sheets.
1863	W. B. McClung.
1864	W. B. McClung.
1865	W. B. McClung.
1866	W. B. McClung.
1867	B. F. Brown.
1868	W. H. H. Dye.
1869 to 1871	W. B. McClung.
1872	N. Smithers.
1873	N. Smithers.
1874	J. W. Ross.
1878-1881	M. W. Hayes.
1882	Lewis Hayner.
1883	David DeWeese.
1884-5	F. B. McNeal.
1886-7	D. C. Branson.
1888-9	W. B. Cox.
1890	D. M. Coppock.
1891-3	W. I. Kiser.
1894-9	Thos. B. Scott.
1900-7	W. F. Robbins.
1908-	George A. Fry.

SECRETARIES.

1849-53	M. M. Munson.
1854-5	R. W. Furnas.
1856	George Morris.
1857-61	C. W. Morris.
1862	C. T. Bear.
1863-65	C. W. Morris.
1866-69	W. H. Gahagan.
1870	J. W. Ross.
1871-4	S. R. Drury.
1875	F. M. Sterrett.
1876-8	W. A. R. Tenney.
1879-80	A. M. Heywood.
1881-2	J. C. Chamberlain.
1882-1908	W. I. Tenney.

TREASURERS.

1849-53	G. D. Burgess.
1854-55	S. K. Harter.
1856-61	B. S. Kyle.
1862-4	C. H. Culbertson.
1865-6	David Kelly.
1867-70	C. H. Culbertson.
1871	Frank Harter.
1872-3	S. R. Drury.
1874	S. D. Frank.
1875	Theodore Sullivan.
1876	Thomas Sullivan.
1877-8	Theodore Sullivan.
1879-85	I. N. Price.
1886-93	W. H. Alexander.
1894-7	John A. McCurdy.
1898-1904	D. M. Coppock.
1905-08	John N. McDowell.

Some years ago the Grange movement began in the county and in a short time assumed great proportions. It at once interested the agricultural localities and granges were established in various sections. Store houses were set up, but, with one or two exceptions perhaps, these have been discontinued. There are now a number of thriving granges in the county and the meetings are largely attended. Charles M. Freeman, of Rex, P. O., has held the office of secretary of the National Grange for several years.

The Farmers' Institute is another important body of recent formation. This organization has done more to keep up the interest in county agriculture than anything yet started. It holds one or more meetings each year at which speakers of state and national reputation deliver addresses. It does not confine itself to any one locality, but meets at various points in two-day sessions. Theodore Rogers of Casstown is now president of the Farmers' Institute.

The Miami County Horticultural Society, B. B. Scarf, president, is another organization which of late years has done much good in its particular line. It was formed to keep up an interest in horticultural matters and in this has been very successful. The importance of horticulture is constantly kept at the fore by the society and many of its discussions are published at length in the county newspapers. There are several nurseries and fruit gardens in the county, besides many berry raisers, and these work in conjunction with the Horticultural Society. A large amount of berries are annually raised within the county for home consumption and foreign shipment and this branch of industry is yearly increasing. The soil of the county is peculiarly adapted to small fruit culture and the farmer is taking advantage of it.

The farm products of Miami County are for the most part wheat, corn, oats, rye, hay and barley. Of late years the culture of tobacco has been introduced with much success. This commodity meets with ready sale and the farmer has added it to the sources of his income. At first tobacco was raised only west of the Miami, but of late years the farmers east of the river have taken up the culture of the weed and have profited thereby. The prediction that within a few years Miami will become one of the greatest tobacco producing counties of the state may be made with the utmost confidence.

Aside from general agriculture the farmers of the county have taken up the breeding of good stock as a side line. In the early sixties the first Jersey cattle were raised on the Johnston farm near Piqua; Charles McCullough had one of the first brought to Troy. In 1876 N. H. Albaugh exhibited a pair of Holsteins at the Fair. Many years ago a sale of Durhams was held in Troy. Captain John Drury brought the first Morgan horse to the county seat, and about 1860 N. Smither had the first English draft horse brought into the county. The early 70's witnessed the arrival in the county of the first Norman horses. As early as 1847 Zimri Heald exhibited a lot of Merino sheep and for many years this breed was the only kind to be found in the county. At the public sale of Durhams mentioned above a calf was knocked down for seventeen dollars. This price was then considered excessive and led one of the spectators to exclaim: "Why, that is more than we gave for our cow!" In 1847 cows in the county sold for from ten dollars to fifteen dollars. The reader may compare those prices with the ones that prevail now. Today the county is full of blooded stock, as is seen by the annual exhibits made by the farmers. In this respect agricultural Miami is the peer of any county in the State.

CHAPTER XV.

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

The Children's Home—Benevolence of John H. Knoop—The Schmidlapp Free Public School Library, Piqua—The Troy Free School Library—The Young Men's Christian Association—The Woman's Christian Temperance Union—The Young Women's Christian Temperance Unions—Colored People's Temperance Union—Woman's Christian Association of Troy—The Ball Memorial Hospital at Piqua—The Altrurian Club of Troy—The Civic League—Regimental and Other Military Organizations—The Maryland Association.

The Children's Home—It was not until recent years that public institutions sprang up within the county. The need of these had long been felt. The County Infirmary had cared for the indigent, including their off-spring, but the time came when a proper home for the latter was found to be a necessity. The Infirmary was not regarded as a suitable home for the little wards of the county, and a place was needed where they could be educated apart from the influences that surround an infirmary. To this end many discussions arose, but nothing promised to come out of them till a single man stepped forward and solved the problem.

John H. Knoop, a bachelor, a man of wealth and one of the first settlers of the county, gave stability to the idea of a Children's Home. He possessed several hundred acres of excellent land which was situated in Elizabeth Township. Mr. Knoop emigrated to the county at an early day and settled at Staunton. His old cabin, said to be the first house erected within the limits of the county, is standing at the present day upon the old Knoop farm now occupied by William R. Saunders. Perhaps it was his own boyhood spent in the wilderness of the Miami which caused John H. Knoop to sympathize with the homeless child, the little one cast adrift upon the world, sometimes by the act of heartless parents, and always by circumstances over which the waif had no control. He resolved to brighten the future of the homeless child and to this end he proposed to deed to the county land upon which should be erected a Children's Home, where the poor youth of the county could be housed and schooled away from all improper influences.

The Women's Christian Association first brought before the public the necessity for an institution of this kind in 1877, and this was so well received that the directors of the County Infirmary advocated it in their report which was made in March of that year. On the 4th of June, John H. Knoop (conjointly with his brother Jacob) conveyed to the county, through its commissioners, Isaac Clyne, W. H. Northcutt and D. C. Branson, 160 acres of land situated in Elizabeth Township, to be used for all purposes of a Children's Home. The county auditor, W. I. Tenney, was authorized by the commissioners to inform the voters of the county that they would be called upon to vote on the proposition to build a Children's Home, at the coming October election. The need of such an institution was so apparent that it was thought it would carry unanimously, but 175 votes were cast against the building of the Home to 5,891 in favor of it.

Having sanctioned Mr. Knoop's munificent proposition, the good work was not allowed to lag. During the following spring the commissioners visited various children's homes for the purpose of familiarizing themselves with the construction of the proper buildings, and in May, 1878, building contracts amounting to over $16,000 were awarded to several parties. The plans and specifications of the main building were drawn up by D. W. Gibbs, an architect of Toledo. Having progressed thus far, R. P. Spiker, of Piqua, Jacob Roher, of Tippecanoe City and Samuel K. Harter, of Troy, were appointed trustees and in January, 1879, Washington Barnes of Troy was made superintendent. The building was finished and ready for occupancy the last of that month. Mr. Barnes served as superintendent till 1891, when he resigned, to be followed by Henry Jay, who later gave way to Rufus Fish, who is the present efficient superintendent, while his wife fills the position of matron of the institution.

Since the erection of the Home proper other commodious buildings and annexes have been added, until now the Knoop Children's Home is one of the best institutions of the kind in the state. Within the last few years a handsome chapel and schoolhouse have been built on the grounds, and everything has been done for the comfort of the children. The farm so generously donated to the county by John and Jacob Knoop is very productive, one of the best east of the Miami. It is well drained and cared for and annually, under the present management, brings forth good crops. The Children's Home is governed by a board of trustees who, aided by the superintendent, makes an annual report to the commissioners, which report is always open for inspection by the public. In connection with the Home is a well-conducted Sabbath school and the day school conducted by a corps of excellent teachers is a credit to the institution.

Visitors to the Home are admitted from 1 to 4 p. m. except Saturday and Sunday and the Sunday school is open to every one. The regular meetings of the trustees take place on the first Monday of each month, when friends and relatives of the children are allowed to call upon them. Children are sometimes allowed to be taken out of the Home and raised by proper parties and these children are looked after by the superintendent, who sees that they are well cared for and properly schooled. The average number of children occupying the Knoops Home is about sixty. A competent physician is regularly employed by the trustees to look after the health of the children, and their every want is supplied. Miami County is proud of the Knoop Children's Home, as well it may be, for it fills a long-felt want and is today the most prominent of its public institutions. The present roster of the Home is as follows: Superintendent, Rufus Fish; matron, Mrs. Rufus Fish; trustees, David Deweese, John T. Knoop, Ellis Kerr, and C. L. Bennett.

The Schmidlapp Free Public School Library—The largest public library within the limits of the county is the Schmidlapp Free Public School Library, situated in Piqua. This handsome library was secured through the generosity of Jacob Schmidlapp, a wealthy gentleman of Cincinnati, but born and raised in Piqua. The Library was organized in 1890 and at first had quarters in the old Schmidlapp home on Main Street and at first consisted of two rooms, the stock room, and reading room. These quarters were soon found to be inadequate and in 1898 a large addition was built. At the present time the building contains a large stock room, store room, two well appointed reference rooms, a children's room, store room, librarian's office and the office of the clerk of the Board of Education. The library is supervised by the Board of Education of Piqua, which consists of the following persons: President, Oscar Fisher; vice-president, Mrs. W. P. Orr; clerk, George Dettmer; trustees, C. C. Jelleff, Otto Von Bargen, Dr. W. J. Prince and F. P. Brotherton.

The Schmidlapp Library does not issue a printed report as do other public institutions of the kind, but the librarian annually puts out a statistical account of the library's patronage, etc. The Library now contains about 15,000 volumes and has a circulation of over 50,000 books a year. Its shelves are well stocked with books of every sort and keep up with the demands of the reading public. Its active *personnel* is as follows: Librarian, Jessie H. Masden; assistant librarians, Sue Hetherton, Gertrude Irvin; library committee, Charles Jelleff, Will J. Prince, M. D. The Schmidlapp Free School Public Library is the pride of the citizens of Piqua and is well patronized. The volumes on its shelves are selected by a discriminating committee and none but the best literature of the day is found there.

Troy Free School Library—The nucleus of the Troy Free School Library was brought together in the "Reception Room" of the old Edwards school building by the beloved first superintendent of the Troy public schools, William N. Edwards. From time to time a few additions were made to this by the classes graduating from the school, but at the end of twenty years there were only 150 volumes, but these were all well selected books. In 1880 the public-spirited citizens of Troy determined that Troy should have a public library and a number of professional men organized a lecture course, each man delivering one lecture. The proceeds of these entertainments were used in maintaining a reading room for a few months, but there being no funds to keep up the library, it was dropped for the time. In 1885 C. L. Van Cleve, then superintendent of the Troy schools, moved the school library to the new Kyle Building, appointed one of the high school pupils librarian, wrote to several of the older graduates living in other cities for donations, and arranged to give out the books to pupils and citizens who held cards, the cards being issued to any one who donated $5 to the purchase of new books. Not much use was made of the library, however, for the reason that it was in a remote part of the town, was only open during a limited number of hours each week and the patrons of it were mostly people who had as good, if not better, libraries of their own.

In March, 1894, a number of women in Troy organized the Altrurian Club, with the avowed purpose of creating a sentiment in favor of a public library. In 1895 the Altrurian Club petitioned the Board of Education to place the school library in a room accessible to all and to make it a free public library. The school board consented, providing a room could be obtained. The club agreed to raise a large sum of money for the expenses of the library as an inducement to the City Council to grant the use of a room in the City Building. A small room on the second floor of the City Building was granted them and the school board allowed the school library to be moved to the City Building. Mrs. Clarissa D. Williams was appointed librarian and the room was opened to the public one-half of each day. The work of cataloguing the books was at last completed and the Troy Public Library opened to the public December 5, 1896, the total number of books at that time being 2,111, and nine magazines were placed upon the reading table. The Altrurian Club raised over one thousand dollars for the support of this library by conducting a number of entertainments, issuing a Woman's Edition of the *Miami Union* and publishing two editions of the Altrurian Cookbook. The editors of the three county papers published in Troy, *The Miami Union, The Buckeye,* and the *Democrat,* assisted in creating a sentiment for the public library by each week publishing either an editorial or news item. Other literary clubs in Troy began making donations each year to the public library until 1902, when the time seemed ripe for establishing the library upon the basis that it should be supported by the tax payers of Troy. A mass meeting of all the clubs in the city was held in September, 1902, at which time it was decided to petition the city council to donate the room on the first floor of the City Building for library purposes. This room was then used as a post office, but the lease would terminate in a few months, and the post office would be moved to the first floor of the I. O. O. F. Temple. The City Council granted the request and appropriated sufficient money to remodel and furnish the room, which would be ready for occupancy by May 1st, 1903. That day was set for a "book shower," and all winter committees from every club in Troy were busy working to make the book shower a success. On May 1st, 1903, H. P. Weatherhead, as president of the Council, formally presented the furnished library room to the city of Troy, A. F. Broomhall in behalf of the Board of Education and the citizens of Troy accepted the gift. The donations received that day amounted to $1,051.50 in money and 1,300 volumes of books, many of them being valuable books of reference which would have cost several dollars per volume.

A tax was levied for the support of the library and over $3,000 each year is appropriated for the expenses of the library. The annual report of the librarian shows that on November 30, 1908, there were 9,640 books in the library, fifty-eight magazines upon the reading table and a number of daily papers and all the weekly pa-

KNOOP CHILDREN'S HOME

COUNTY INFIRMARY

BALL MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, PIQUA

I. O. O. F. BUILDING AND POSTOFFICE, TROY

pers of the county, these last being donated by the publishers. During the year 16,468 visitors had dropped in either to look over the magazines or to consult books of reference; 2,575 people are enrolled as patrons and the number of books placed in circulation during the year was 34,867, the library having been closed several weeks by order of the Board of Health because of an epidemic of small-pox in the city. During the month of March 3,767 books were issued. The library is now open every day, except Sundays and legal holidays, and under the efficient management of the librarian, Mrs. Clarissa D. Williams, and her assistants, Miss Blanche Mitchell and Miss Anna Mary Dinsmore, it is an aggressive force in all that pertains to the betterment of the individual and, through the individual, the civic life.

The Young Men's Christian Association of Piqua is another prominent institution which has already accomplished a great work. Since its founding a few years ago it has advanced along the lines of moral improvement until it has reached the position it occupies today. It is the only institution of the kind in the county. Others which have been suggested have not materialized, so that Piqua may be called the pioneer in this direction. This excellent Y. M. C. A. has the following officers: President, J. H. Clark; vice-president, H. K. Wood; secretary, J. F. Stewart; treasurer, E. M. Bell; general secretary, Edmund McDonald, Jr.; musical director, Christ F. Kunz, Jr.; office secretary, Ray Besanceney; board of trustees, Charles H. Brown, H. H. Gravett; D. O.; E. W. Lape, D. F. Licklider, L. W. Pool, A. G. Rundle, C. F. Wilder, J. B. Williamson.

Woman's Christian Temperance Union—The county has been thoroughly organized by the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. There are branches of this noble institution in every township and the workers are indefatigable in the good cause. The W. C. T. U. of Miami County is of comparatively recent growth. A few years ago there were few within the county but through the earnest effort of the Christian women the work has received a stimulus which has not been allowed to lag. Following are the presidents of the various unions now in the county, with the name of the president of each organization: West Milton, Mrs. Rev. Maxwell; Laura, Mrs. Mattie Brandon; Potsdam, Mrs. E. P. Stauffer; Phoneton, Mrs. Ollie Bell; Brandt, Mrs. Emma Heffner; Tippecanoe City, Mrs. Mary Ross; Piqua, Mrs. John Miller, Bradford; Mrs. Margaret Winters; Lena, Mrs. Ida Duer; Covington, Mrs. Amanda Kendig; Pleasant Hill, Mrs. Martha Shaffer; Troy, Mrs. Mary Westlake; Casstown, Mrs. Callie Webb.

Young Women's Christian Temperance Union—There are five Young Women's Christian Temperance Unions in the county in addition to the foregoing. They are as follows: Fletcher, president, Mrs. J. E. Eichelbarger; Pleasant Hill, Mrs. Bertha Troas; Piqua, Mrs. Ida Bayes; Covington, Miss Lova Williams; Troy, Miss Sue Statler. There are also two Young Men's Christian Temperance Unions. The Troy Y. M. C. T. U. was organized three years ago and is now in a flourishing condition with a membership of over sixty. This society has rooms on Water Street in the McCullough Building, where a Bible class is conducted. Another Y. M. T. C. U. is conducted at Ludlow Falls.

A Colored People's Temperance Union is conducted in Troy, of which Mrs. Elizabeth Fletcher, wife of Rev. Fletcher, is president. Summing up, Miami County has over 600 members of the various temperance unions operated today within its borders and these societies have worked untiringly to secure local option within the county and as Miami last fall voted dry, they feel that they have achieved a great victory.

Apropos of temperance in 1873 an attempt was made to rid the county of its saloons in a decidedly unique manner. This is called the Woman's Crusade. Bands of women appeared in front of saloons and held religious services on the sidewalk. The excitement extended to the remotest borders of the county and continued till the end of the crusade. Despite the earnest efforts of the women but little was effected. The Crusaders were, as a rule, treated respectfully by the vendors of liquor and in some instances were permitted to hold services in the bar-rooms. Very few men took part in the Crusade of 1873, the whole work devolving upon the women. After awhile the Crusaders discovered that their efforts were unavailing and the effort was abandoned. In 1908 the second crusade against the liquor interests was inaugurated under the provisions of the Rose Law recently passed by the Legislature. The requisite number of signatures to call an election were secured and this event took place November 24th. Prior to the election an exciting campaign was inaugurated by the opposing parties known as the "wets" and the "drys," temperance or local option meetings were held in every section of the county and great demonstrations were held in the larger towns. Speakers from other states were introduced into the county and the campaign was not entirely free from personal "amenities." The liquor men whose headquarters were in Piqua held no public meetings. One of the largest votes ever polled in the county was had on the 24th. It resulted in a majority of 1,309 for the "drys." On December 24th the saloons and breweries in the county closed their doors and Miami joined the other "dry" districts of the State.

The Woman's Christian Association of Troy is a strong charitable organization which is given rooms in the City Building by the City Council. Here every Saturday afternoon the members of the society conduct a sewing-school, teaching the children of the poor how to sew. As soon as a child completes a garment it is given her to wear, and thus many of the poorer children are taught how to become neat seamstresses and so grow up able to earn a good living. This society also takes special pride in looking after the comfort of the poor of the city and many families are kept by them through the rigors of the winter. Annually the Knights of Pythias of Troy give a Charity Ball, the proceeds of which are turned over to the Woman's Christian Association for expenditure among the needy as is also the annual Thanksgiving offering at the Union Thanksgiving services.

Ball Memorial Hospital—The only public hospital in the county is the Ball Memorial Hospital at Piqua. This hospital was opened a few years ago and is conducted on advanced lines. It employs a corps of competent surgeons and nurses and so far has been very successful, treating all kinds of cases. It was erected largely through the instrumentality of a Mr. Ball, who was once a prominent resident of the city. A few years ago a hospital was opened at Troy, but it was not operated very long and now no longer exists.

The beginning of the Memorial Hospital was had in 1904 when Mrs. Edward C. Thayer, of Keene, N. H., proposed to erect and give to the city a hospital to cost $20,000, to be known as the Memorial Hospital, in memory of the late De Los C. Ball, her brother, and at one time a respected resident of Piqua. The generous offer was accepted and five acres on Park Avenue were secured. The hospital is conveniently situated and is one of the most complete hospitals in the country. All departments are well equipped. The operating room, sterilizing and anæsthetizing rooms are on the third floor, also a pathological laboratory for the accommodation of physicians. The hospital was dedicated and formally presented to the public with impressive ceremonies, November 30th, 1905, but was not opened till the following December. It was founded and maintained for the benefit of all classes, and is managed by a Board of Trustees, composed of twelve citizens of Piqua, assisted by a Board of Lady Managers. At present it is officered as follows: President, W. P. Orr; vice-president, John H. Young; treasurer, Henry Flesh; secretary, George M. Peffer; superintendent, Elabeath L. Hatfield. Board of Trustees: Gen. W. P. Orr, John H. Young, Henry Flesh, George H. Rundle, Robert H. Patterson, James R. Duncan. (Life Members): Term expires 1913—Charles L. Wood, Samuel K. Statler; Terms expire 1911—Daniel Spencer, George A. Brooks; Term expires 1909—Samuel Zollinger, Frank Lange. Trustee ex-Officio—The Mayor of the City of Piqua.

School Libraries—About forty years ago nearly every school had a circulating library, but these were discontinued and now few rural schools possess anything of the kind. The smaller towns of the county depend somewhat for their reading matter on the inadequate bookshelves of the high schools, but outside of Troy and Piqua no regularly officered libraries are in existence. The two exceptions are the outgrowth of earnest work on the part of citizens, especially the ladies, and with little effort similar institutions could be established and kept up in the lesser towns.

Social Clubs—Within the county a large number of social clubs exist. The membership is almost exclusively feminine. The Altrurian Club of Troy is probably the best known of these literary and social organizations. Most of these women's clubs belong to a State Federation which is under the jurisdiction of the National Federation. The members of these clubs hold weekly meetings, at which literary papers are read and discussed. Some of the papers describe personal travel by the authors, while others discuss a certain era, giving a pen picture of past events and celebrated personages. Of late years the club has become quite popular in the county and there are few progressive women who are not connected with one or more of these organizations. In another chapter will be found some of the organizations conducted by the women of the county.

The Civic League—An attempt was made during 1908 to establish what was called a Civic League which was to benefit the colored race. The league appeared to meet with some success and its prospects were favorably commented upon, but in a short time the leaven of politics was injected into the organization and disrupted it. Since that time nothing has been heard of the Civic League. It passed out of existence and in all probability will not be revived. There are numerous local societies in the county which do not come within the scope of a work of this kind. These exist within certain neighborhoods and families and comprise in part social organizations which culminate annually in family reunions. All these clubs are officered and the membership of some is large. Almost every well known family now has an organized club and in some cases family histories have been published. Each of the clubs has a historian whose duty it is to gather family data and present the same at the annual gatherings. In this way traditions are collected and preserved and relationship extended. Several of the largest family clubs meet annually at the Miami County Fair grounds.

Regimental Organizations—Apart from the clubs mentioned stand the regimental organizations which embrace the old veterans and their families. These reunions are separate and apart from the department encampments of the Grand Army and Woman's Relief Corps. These regimental reunions are held every year by the several regiments from this county that served in the War of the Rebellion, and the gatherings are most interesting in character. At these reunions the fast disappearing wearers of the Blue live over the camp, the march and the battle. Campfires form a noted feature of these gatherings which will be kept up till the last veteran has answered the roll call and passed beyond to rest "in the shade of the trees."

The Maryland Association of Ohio was organized in Miami County in 1897. It is composed of Marylanders and their descendants residents of Ohio. From a small affair the society has reached statewide proportions and meets annually, though not always within the limits of the county. It has now a membership of 3,000. The present officers of the association are Albert Kerns, president; T. C. Harbaugh, secretary, and S. T. Fout, treasurer. This completes the list of public institutions, societies, etc., which properly come under the head of the present chapter. All mentioned are flourishing and well conducted and there is not one that is not a credit to the county in which it exists.

CHAPTER XVI.

BANKS AND BANKING

Early Currency; Its Instability—The Old State Banks—The First National Bank of Troy Organized—The Miami County Bank and Troy National Bank—The Piqua National Bank—The Citizens' National Bank of Piqua—The Piqua Savings Bank Company—The Tippecanoe National Bank—The Citizens' National Bank of Tippecanoe City—Banks of West Milton, Covington, Pleasant Hill, Bradford, Etc.—Stability of Miami County's Financial Institutions.

The history of banking in Miami County may be briefly told. The banks now in operation and successfully so are the successors of the old State banks which were the first mediums of financial exchange. Prior to the establishment of the State banks the meager currency of the country was poor indeed. Before the War of 1812 the circulating medium was the almost worthless sharp-skins or cut-money, a description of which has already been given. There were no banks operating in this locality at that time, for the State banks did not come into existence till after the War. While they were a great advance in the way of monetary affairs they were, to some extent, looked upon with distrust. Before the coming of the banking institutions which flourish today, the excellent national banks and those chartered under the present banking laws of the State, including the savings banks, the country went through the "wild-cat" regime, which is well remembered by our older citizens.

This period of poor and depreciated currency was the nightmare of every business man and those who handled money. Every merchant was compelled to keep in his desk a "detector" which, to a certain extent, kept him informed as to the value of the bills which passed over his counter. A person going from one state into another often found that his money carried him no further than the state line. There was really nothing behind the "wild-cat" banks. Half the time their issue was "up in the air" so to speak. They were fairly good today and tomorrow their currency was not worth the paper upon which it was printed. Banks failed everywhere and the holders of the bills had no recourse whatever. If a light-fingered gentleman picked a traveler's pocket he got nothing for his pains but a lot of bills whose value as stated on their face was a prevarication.

Some of the State and wild-cat banknotes were beautifully engraved and well printed. In fact, they were marvels of the engraver's skill. Counterfeits were abundant, and in many instances were as good as the genuine, owing to the instability of the prevailing banks. A merchant sending bank bills, say to the East or even into an adjoining state, in payment of goods, was apt to have his money returned with the information that the banks of issue had "gone out of business." This period was one of financial uncertainty. It kept every handler of money suspicious and consequently exercised a deleterious influence on trade.

The State banks were much better than the others, but in time the need of a better banking system than they afforded called for improvement. In 1863 the First National Bank of Troy was established as a successor to the Miami County Branch of the State Bank, which was founded in 1847. The first officers were: President, Asa Coleman; cashier, John C. Culbertson; teller and book-keeper, Daniel W. Smith. Directors—Jacob Knoop, Sr., Daniel Brown, George Smith, Asa Coleman, Lewis Hayner and H. W. Allen. In 1865 H. W. Allen was elected president and D. W. Smith cashier, positions which hold to this day. The First National in 1908 erected a new fire-proof banking house and its present officers follow: President, Henry W. Allen; vice-president, Cyrus T. Brown; cashier, D. W. Smith; assistant cashier, John H. Drury; teller, C. E. Snyder; Savings Department—Walter G. Wells; book-keeper, Roy Fish; Directors —H. W. Allen, C. T. Brown, S. K. Statler, H. M. Allen, C. J. Harr, John McClain, J. S. Coombs, A. B. Thackera, C. U. Briggs. It was the fifty-ninth National Bank to be started in the United States. Its capital is $200,000. The First National is considered one of the safest banks in the country.

The Miami County Bank was established in 1871 by W. H. H. Dye and Son and in 1879 passed into the hands of another corporation headed by H. H. Weakly. It has a capital of $50,000. Later on, in 1888, it became the Troy National Bank, with a capital of $100,000. Its first officers were: President, N. H. Albaugh; vice-president, John M. Campbell; cashier, Noah Yount; assistant cashier, Charles E. Wilson. Noah Yount was cashier of the Miami County Bank under the Weakley management. The present officers of the Troy National are: President, John M. Campbell; vice-president, D. M. McCullough; cashier, Walter E. Bowyer; assistant cashiers, Noah Yount, John K. Defrees; teller, H. E. Scott; book-keeper, V. C. Levre. Directors—John M. Campbell, D. M. McCullough, W. H. Francis, A. G. Stouder, Jacob Henne, E. F. Sayers, R. W. Saunders, W. P. Martin, A. M. Heywood. The Troy National, with the First National, pays interest on time deposits, has safety deposit boxes and does a safe banking business.

The present Piqua National Bank was incorporated as the Piqua Branch of the State Bank of Ohio in 1847 with a capital stock of $100,000, by William Scott, Jos. G. Young, H. W. Hughes, J. D. Holtzerman, Stephen Winans, Robert Young, L. R. Brownell, and J. A. Schmidlapp. William Scott was its first president and Jos. G. Young its first cashier. On March 13, 1865, it was reorganized as the Piqua National Bank, with William Scott, president, J. G. Young, cashier, and Henry B. Greenham, assistant cashier. Its capital stock was increased to $200,000. During the forty-three years of its existence its net profits have been over one million dollars, from which dividends have been paid to the amount of $855,565. A balance of more than $200,000 is still carried as undivided profits. The present official force of the Piqua National is: George H. Rundle, president; H. K. Wood, vice-president; John H. Young, cashier; George M. Peffer, assistant cashier; August S. Clouse, teller; G. E. Folk and F. H. King, book-keepers. Directors—G. H. Rundle, H. K. Wood, Jas. R. Duncan, J. W. Brown, J. H. Clark, C. N. Adlard, J. B. Sheridan, Daniel Spencer, J. W. Daniels, Joe F. Coppock and John H. Young. This bank has the confidence of the entire community and is listed as one of the best institutions of the kind in the banking business.

The Citizens' National, also of Piqua, was organized in 1866 by William and M. N. McGrew. It started business with a capital of $100,000. In 1867 the McGrews sold out to G. Volney Dorsey and Robert B. Moores. Dr. Dorsey became president and his partner cashier. The present *personnel* of the Citizens' National is as follows: President, W. P. Orr; vice-president, Samuel Zollinger; cashier, Henry Flesh; assistant cashier, Frank B. Zoe; teller, F. P. Irvin. Directors—W. P. Orr, S. K. Statler, Samuel Zollinger, W. McC. Dorsey, W. A. Snyder, L. M. Flesh, A. M. Orr, Joseph Wolcott and Henry Flesh. This banking house has enjoyed prosperity from its inception and is accounted a safe and sound institution. Among its older officers were C. S. Parker, vice-president, and H. C. Landis, cashier. Its present capital is $150,000 and its volume of business done in a year is approximately $5,000,000.

The Piqua Savings Bank Company is one of the best financial institutions in the county. It was organized in October, 1901, and ever since has been successfully conducted. Its present corps of officers is as follows: President, W. P. Orr; first vice-president, L. M. Flesh; second vice-president, George Benkert; cashier, John L. Prugh; assistant cashier, W. B. Dubois; Directors—W. P. Orr, L. M. Flesh, George Genkert, Henry Flesh, S. K. Statler, John W. Yenney, John W. Brown, L. E. Chamberlin, W. B. Snyder, John L. Boyer, A. M. Orr. This bank is capitalized at $100,000 and does a very large banking business, having the confidence of all.

The Tippecanoe National Bank was organized March 5, 1883, and commenced business August 27, of that year. Its first officers were: Samuel Sullivan, president; Jacob Rohrer, vice-president; A. W. Miles, cashier; Directors—Samuel Sullivan, Jacob Rohrer, G. W. Weakley, W. W. Crane, J. W. Bowman, William Ashworth, John Brown. It has a capital of $60,000 and its deposits and loans have increased from $42,000 to $250,000 during the last twenty-five years. The present officers of the Tippecanoe National Bank are: President, T. C. Leonard; vice-president, E. L. Crane; cashier, A. W. Miles; assistant cashier, E. L. Crane; Directors—T. C. Leonard, William Ashworth, J. W. Bowman, A. W. Miles, E. L. Crane, W. E. Crane, A. L. Harshbarger. Always reliable and careful, the Tippecanoe National has the entire confidence of a large and increasing clientele.

The Citizens' National Bank of Tippecanoe City was organized January 2, 1908. It has a capital of $50,000 with $12,500 of an undivided surplus. It is officered as follows: S. R. Fergus, president; S. D. Hartman, vice-president; C. O. Davis, cashier; Directors—S. R. Fergus, Jacob Coppock, S. D. Hartman, C. O. Davis, T. J. Dinsmore, A. R. Garver, J. H. Pohlman, R. M. Evans, W. E. Prill, L. C. Gissman, John Singer, George J. Smith, Henry Studebaker, Abe Studebaker, J. S. Studebaker and L. N. Agenbroad. There is a bright future before this, one of the latest, banks to be established in this county, and its reliability is vouched for in its present efficient *personnel*.

The town of West Milton contains two banks. The first of these in point of organization is the West Milton Bank, established in December, 1882. In 1908 it was succeeded by the First National Bank of West Milton, with a capital of $30,000. The first officers were Robert M. Douglass, president; C. B. Douglass, vice-president; D. F. Douglass, cashier. For twenty-five years this banking house has had the same corps of officers, with the addition of Gifford Douglass, who is the assistant cashier. The deposits of the First National now amount to $175,000, an excellent showing for a bank in an interior town.

The Citizens' National Bank of West Milton was organized in 1907. It has a paid-up capital of $18,000 and an authorized one of $30,000 and its annual volume of business foots up more than half a million. The first and present elective officers are C. E. Emerick, president; Adam Pfeifer, first vice-president; A. J. Iddings, second vice-president; Noble B. Hunt, cashier; Ada M. Guagey, book-keeper. Directors—C. E. Emerick, Adam Pfeifer, A. J. Iddings, J. C. Henderson, Dr. W. H. Kessler, J. C. Minnich, B. J. Ford, L. A. Pearson, G. N. Falkner. Though young in years the Citizens' National has its share of the banking business of the Stillwater region and gives good satisfaction.

The Stillwater Valley Bank of Covington commenced business in 1871, and was incorporated as a state bank in 1908. It has a capital of $50,000 and does an annual banking business of over $200,000. It is officered at present as follows: J. Kendell, president; S. W. Ullery, vice-president; J. Kendell, cashier; and A. J. Maier, assistant cashier. The Stillwater Valley Bank is regarded as a sound banking house and enjoys a large and increasing patronage.

On May 31st, 1900, the Citizens' National Bank of Covington was incorporated with a capital of $25,000. Its first officers were Henry Flesh, president; J. W. Ruhl, vice-president; J. L. Goodnight, cashier; J. G. Bartness and S. B. Freshour. At present its official force is Henry Flesh, president; J. W. Ruhl, vice-president; A. W. Landis, cashier; Directors—J. W. Dowler, C. M. Patty, D. E. P. Faul and A. W. Landis. The average deposits amount to $100,000, showing a good financial condition, which has gained much by careful management.

Of the lesser banking institutions of the county are the Fletcher Banking Company, which has but one officer, P. L. Carter, cashier; the Pleasant Hill Banking Company, managed by Charles F. Perkins; the Commercial Savings Bank of Troy, established within the year, and the First National Bank of Bradford, of which William Vermillion is cashier. The Building &

Loan Associations will be found mentioned in Chapter XXIII.

The Pleasant Hill Banking Company, above referred to, one of the stable financial institutions on the West Side, was incorporated under the laws of Ohio. Its authorized capital is $25,000, average deposits, $100,000, average loans, $80,000. Officers: David M. Coppack, president; C. E. Perkins, cashier.

All the banking institutions of the county are conducted on a sound monetary basis and are carefully and intelligently managed by those in charge. Never to my knowledge has a single defalcation occurred. From the earliest dawn of Miami County banking our financial institutions have had the entire confidence of the community; they have passed through a number of panics with their attendant depressions of business, but have emerged with their confidence unimpaired, which speaks well for their management and stability.

The celebrated panic of 1857, the Civil War of 1861-65, the panics of 1873 and 1893 failed to shake the foundations of the banks of this country and the safe and conservative management that has always been one of their most prominent features has merited and held the confidence of the entire county. H. W. Allen and Jacob Rohrer, two of the oldest pioneers in the banking business, still survive. The former is still president of the First National Bank of Troy, while the latter has but recently retired from active business on account of age and physical infirmity. While our banks of the present day have adopted a new system from that of the old regime, with a currency sound and good the world over, they have lost none of the integrity which was a noted feature of the first banks. All of them stand today among the trusted institutions of the financial world and with this showing, the banks of Miami County can safely face the people, secure in the reputation they enjoy.

CHAPTER XVII.

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION, PAST AND PRESENT

The Pioneer Doctor—Crude Methods of a Century Ago—Home Remedies—Charm Doctors—Bleeding the Main Reliance of the Old-Time "Regular"—Devotion of the Pioneer Physicians—Diseases Prevalent in Early Days—The Charlatan of Former Days—Some Early Physicians—The Medical Profession of the Present Day—The Miami County Medical Society.

The first disciples of Esculapius and Hippocrates to practice within the present limits of Miami County did not have the advantages enjoyed by their brethren of the present day. The practice of medicine one hundred years ago was crude and unsatisfactory. It was the day of the lancet, calomel and jalap. These, with the murderous "turn-key," formed the stock-in-trade of the old doctor. Without them he would have been as helpless as a rudderless ship in a typhoon. People then were afflicted with many diseases arising largely from the climate and exposure. Doctors were few and far between. Sometimes they were half a day's ride from the isolated cabin and not infrequently a swollen river intervened. Drug stores were unknown and the patent medicine shelf with its cure-alls and exploited nostrums had not come into existence to make poor humanity believe that it was afflicted with all the ills that belong to the human race.

Every family was largely its own doctor. Each household had various remedies compounded from herbs and roots which were supposed and fondly believed to be efficacious. Tansy was a favorite remedy, and poccoon, snakeroot and poke had their advocates. In an old book on the Miami Country published in 1815 I find a catalogue of the roots, herbs, etc., which were taken from Nature's garden for the healing of the sick. Among the stimulants are found prickly ash, Indian turnip, sassafras, ginseng, and the flower of the wild hop. The list of tonics included the bark and flowers of the dogwood, the rose willow, yellow poplar, the cucumber tree and the Spanish oak, while the red maple, wild cherry, and crowfoot were regarded as astringents and so used. The early settler had a long list of Nature's remedies to choose from and when sickness visited his family he became his own diagnostician and prescribed accordingly. Almost every neighborhood had its "charm doctor." Old women claimed to be experts in the removal of ringworms, tetter, felons and the like, and were frequently called upon to exercise their potent influence. They were said to be able to remove a bone felon by holding a hot coal over it and accompanying the operation with a lot of cabalistic words which awed the patient as well as the spectators. If the wart, ringworm or tetter disappeared well and good and the "doctoress" received the praise. Of course the old practitioner discounted the virtues of the charm doctors and held them in contempt. He laughed at the testimonials which were presented and went on with his bleeding and dosing just the same.

It mattered little how weak a patient might be, he had to be bled. The very thing he needed most, blood, was taken from him. It is affirmed that Washington was bled to death by Dr. Craik and others. This bleeding process obtained in this county till long after the birth of the nineteenth century. As late as 1828 Cooper, in a work on surgery, advised that the patient be bled to fainting and said that during the swoon strangulated hernia could be reduced within a quarter of an hour. Sometimes, when they could be obtained, leeches were used in the practice of medicine, and as late as 1830 Coster advised the application of twenty or thirty leeches in inflammation of the ear. Diphtheria was known as croup in the early dawn of the county's career and for this disease the old doctors gave tartar emetic, and bled. Bleeding was also considered efficacious in pneumonia. The pioneer doctor with his saddle-bags and well-known horse was a character those days.

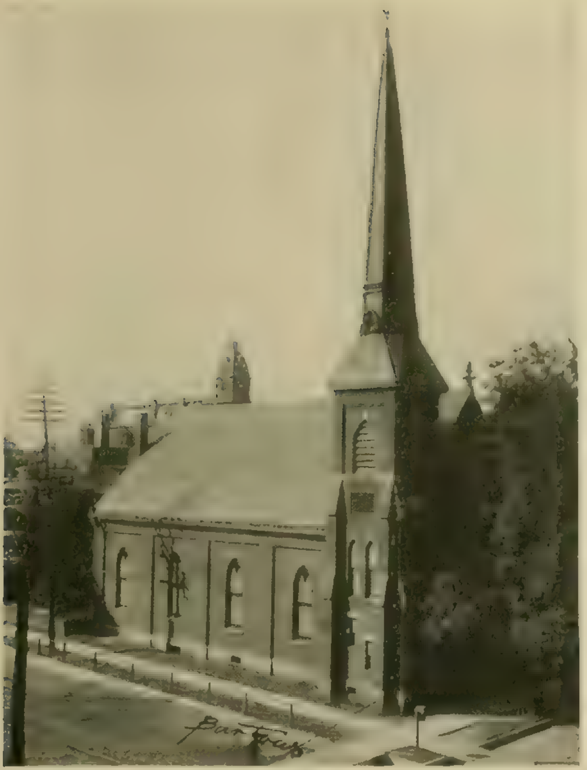
He was filled with the milk of human kindness, refused no calls and often rode miles through the unbroken forest to the bedside of his patient. At one time Dr. Asa Coleman swam the Miami at flood-tide to obey a summons and imperiled his life to give medical aid to the afflicted one. Night rides through wintry forests and over snowy barrens were as nothing to the first doctors of Miami. The howl of the wolf sometimes resounded on every side. The only roads were blazed ones and often not even such traces guided the old practitioner. His *materia medica* was small. His surgical outfit was limited and crude, but with it he often performed marvels. There were broken limbs then as now, gunshot wounds, fractures of every kind, and some of the adjustments were as well done as those of the present day. The trees of the forest furnished him with excellent splints and his amputations nearly always redounded to his credit.

It was long before the day of anesthetics and the patient either suffered in silence or roared out his pain till exhausted. When the torturing turnkey fastened itself on a refractory tooth the stubborn molar was sure to come if the pioneer doctor had the proper strength, and he was generally a man of muscle. He has been known to spend a week at a house watching with the tenderest solicitude over the bed of a sick child and to weep with the sorrowing family, and often charged nothing for his services. The old doctors of Miami were faithful to their trust and did their duty under the most difficult circumstances without a murmur. Whatever may be the verdict of this or coming generations concerning them, their merit will be none the less. They had no nostrums and no specious advertisements and while the nightwinds sing their requiem where they rest, many of them in the forgotten little cemeteries, the world is better for their having lived, better for any note of joy which they helped to beat out of the harsh discords of the times. They deserve a greater monument than has been raised to them.

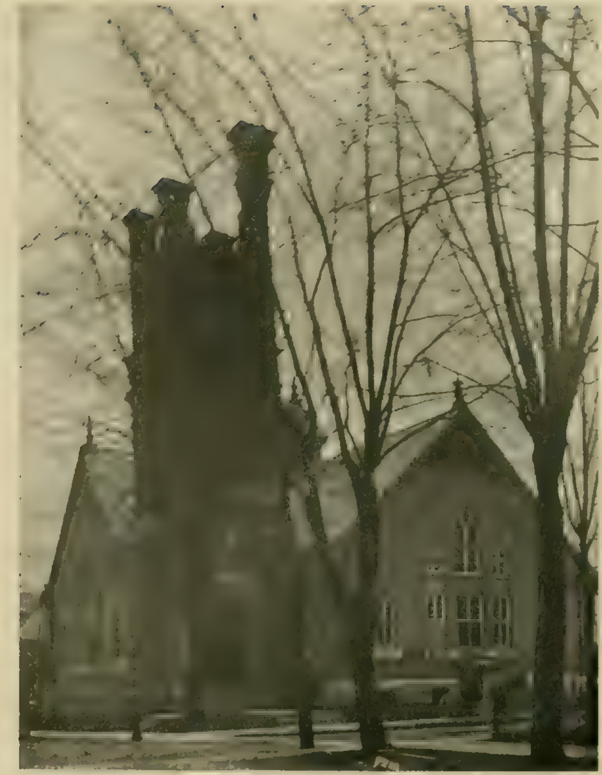
The prevailing diseases of the early days of county history were many. The winters were cold. One of the coldest days was that of January 8, 1797, when the mercury dropped to eighteen degrees below zero. Consumption was practically unknown among the pioneers, croup was the terror of the little household and at times it was depopulated of its children. Weather changes produced rheumatism and along the water courses remitting and intermitting fevers, including ague, prevailed. In 1809, '10 and '11, typhoid fever was prevalent, but after those years this dread scourge abated. Typhus fever prevailed among the immigrants from New England and New York. These people came here in the wrong season and were not proof against the changes of climate. Dysentery occurred every summer in this locality, jaundice was common, and measles and whooping-cough frequently became epidemic. Occasionally the scourge of small-pox visited the infant settlements and on two occasions there was an invasion of cholera which took off many people. Many settlers on Lost Creek died of this terrible disease in the early forties. A disease known locally as the "cold plague" visited this part of the country in 1812-13. It generally attacked those who were most exposed to cold and moisture, and, despite the skill of the old doctors, it proved alarmingly fatal.

Among the other diseases with which the first physicians had to contend were scrofula, rickets, scurvy, dropsy, and apoplexy. Cancers were hardly known in the county then and insanity was very rare. It is said that the first suicide in the county is buried in the old Knoop cemetery in Staunton Township. While venomous serpents were numerous along the streams and among the rock piles, snake bites were infrequent and the few were generally successfully treated. No bills of mortality were kept in the early days, there were no boards of health and the old doctors were not called upon to furnish mortuary statistics. They kept, however, a careful account of their practice and some of their notes and observations are decidedly interesting. Some of the first county physicians held to tenacious opinions peculiarly their own. It is said that John Mote, the first doctor in Union Township, could hardly be convinced that there was such a thing as sick stomach or vegetable poison. He treated such cases as bilious fever and the patient generally succumbed. At last he contracted the disease himself and would not believe it till a neighbor told him that he (the neighbor) could smell it. Then the old doctor dosed himself properly and recovered.

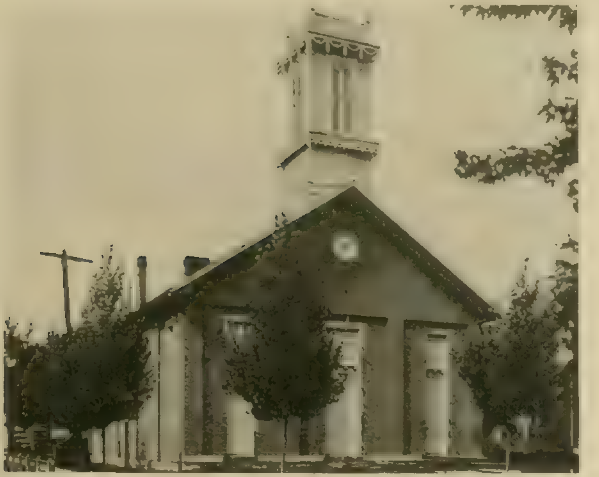
The old-time medical profession of the county had an intense hatred of the charlatan or quack doctor. This individual came to the surface now and then to the detriment of the regular profession and found his dupes as he finds them at the present day. In 1829 Dr. N. Jackson of Piqua in the Piqua *Gazette* sounds a note of warning against the charlatan in the following postscript to his "Medical Notice."



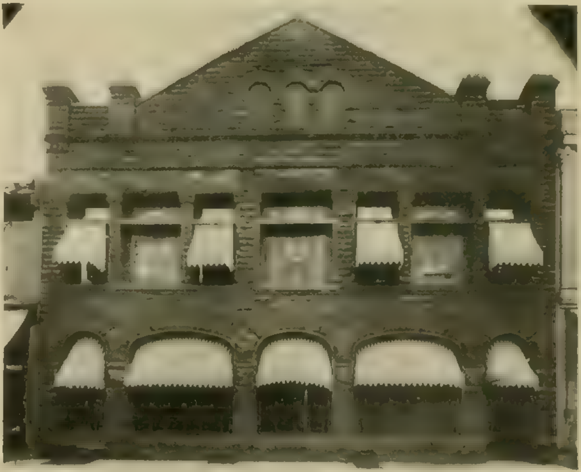
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, TROY



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, COVINGTON



CHRISTIAN CHURCH, PLEASANT HILL



SCHMIDLAPP FREE SCHOOL LIBRARY, PIQUA

"Any person who may require medical aid who applies to one of these empyrics known as *patent doctors* will please omit calling on me during the continuance of that disease. I have determined to attend no such case if known to me. If I should be called on, when I ascertain the fact above alluded to my charge will be *six times* what it otherwise would have been."

Dr. Jackson "informs the citizens of Piqua that he has removed from town to the opposite bank of the Miami River about a half mile east of Piqua and a convenient water craft will be kept opposite his dwelling to accommodate foot passengers; persons on horseback will have a good ford at the same place except in time of high water." He warrants his medicines to be of the first quality and sold at the lowest rate. As there were few bridges across the various county streams those days more than one doctor provided boats for the accommodation of his patrons and some exciting trips were made.

It is narrated that upon one occasion when the river was high, a messenger hurrying for the doctor reached the river only to discover that the boat was missing. Upon a tree at the mooring hung a horn capable of sounding a blast that would rouse the dead. The excited man took down the horn and blew upon it a blast that rivaled Don Rhoderick's. The night was dark and the water a dangerous torrent. Presently across the stream came the voice of the old doctor. "What's wanted?" asked the disciple of Esculapius. "Johnny's swallered something, doctor. It's stuck in his throat and he's going to die!" yelled the troubled father. "Oh, is that all?" was the reply, "Go home, stand Johnny on his head and give him a good spanking. Good night!" As there was no further call on the old doctor it is supposed that "Johnny" had an uninterrupted though somewhat exciting recovery.

The celebrated Indian agent, Col. John Johnston, though not a practitioner, was known to be a good "bone setter," as the term went in the early days. He was frequently called on to show his skill in this direction. He used what was called a "shocking machine" by the neighbors. It was really the old-fashioned and now out-of date electrifying machine and was looked upon as the marvel of the age. Those who underwent its tortures were loud in its praises and wonders were ascribed to it. People came from far and near to be "shocked," and the Colonel came to be regarded as a man of more than celebrated ability. No one knows today the *modus operandi* of this wonderful invention, though it is likely that Johnston was not the pioneer in this particular direction.

It must not be thought for a moment that the pioneer doctor was a man of little education. He was a man much beyond his profession. He kept abreast of the times in everything and especially in the therapeutics of the day. His skill was well known and his willingness to respond to every call was known the country over. His stock of medicines came generally from the east, though in later years pharmacopœias were established at Cincinnati and Columbus. For the remedies which he did not manufacture himself he drew on the nearest medical depot, and, aside from jalap and calomel, he was dependent on his own resources.

Among the early doctors on the west side of the county, besides Dr. Mote already mentioned, was Dr. Robert Crew, the first physician to practice in West Milton. I have no data concerning him. Dr. Lat Patty practiced in Union Township from 1826 to 1836. He was a pioneer of Kansas and died there just before the outbreak of the Civil War. Some of the other doctors in this township were Dr. Bolisky, a Pole of good family (1838), Dr. Dulon (1840). Dr. Dulon was a strong anti-slavery man and was known as a station agent on the "Underground Railroad." Dr. McReynolds practiced there from 1836 to '46 and Dr. Henry Davis from 1842 to '56. He was a brother to Probate Judge Samuel Davis of the county. Dr. Davis had for a partner Dr. Riply. Dr. J. S. Panabaker practiced in Union from 1846 to '50, and Dr. Eli Tenney, afterward county auditor, from 1848 to '68. Dr. S. Jennings of West Milton began his practice there in 1862 and is still in active practice at the same place.

Dr. William Patty began practice in Newton Township many years ago and he is still living and actively engaged in his profession, although he may be classed as a pioneer physician.

Dr. Asa Coleman, of Troy, was among the first of the pioneer physicians. He came from Glastonbury, Conn., where he was born in 1788. Dr. Coleman was identified with church, state, and Masonic affairs as well as with medicine and surgery. He received his medical diploma in 1810 and set up practice in Troy the following year. During the War of 1812 he attended the sick and wounded in the various block-houses and passed through grades of military promotion until he reached the rank of lieutenant colonel in 1818. He also filled the office of representative from Miami and was an associate judge. For many years his figure was a prominent one on the streets of Troy, tall, erect, and white-haired. He died February 25, 1870, and was the father of Colonel A. H. Coleman, who was killed at the battle of Antietam, 1862.

Dr. DeJoncourt was another of Troy's early physicians, so was Dr. Abbott. Dr. Telford was another and Dr. Sabin (there were two Drs. Sabin, father and son) for a long time had a large share of Troy's practice many years ago. Dr. Horace Coleman, son of Dr. Asa, opened an office in Troy about 1850, moved later to Indiana, where he entered the army as surgeon, serving throughout the Civil War. He afterward resumed practice in Troy, but at present is an examining surgeon in the United States Pension Office at Washington, D. C. Dr. Isaac S. Meeks, one of the old style doctors, practiced for many years in the county, first in Lost Creek Township and later in Troy. He was contemporaneous with Drs. Walkley, Keifer, Green and Bowers, all doctors of ability. These doctors may be said to have been pioneers in the profession, though some of them lived until recently. All were well read and careful practitioners and stood in the foremost ranks of the profession.

Piqua has to her credit quite an army of old-time physicians. Some of these became noted outside the profession of medicine. Probably the most noted of these was Dr. G. Volney Dorsey, referred to several times in this volume. He was probably the most erudite of the past physicians of the county, a fine scholar and a deep thinker. Dr. Henry Chapeze came to Piqua from Kentucky about 1814. He erected a brick office on the southwest corner of Wayne and Water Streets, the first brick building to be built within the village limits. In 1820 Dr. John O'Ferrall settled in Piqua, where he practiced medicine till his death many years later. Drs. Chapeze and O'Ferrall rode the county when much of it was a vast unbroken forest, sleeping and eating in the uncouth homes of the early settlers, but always having in mind the health of the community. Dr. Chapeze died in 1828, but his colleague, Dr. O'Ferrall, lived to see the county take its place among the first commonwealths within the state. Among the other doctors of Piqua in early days were Drs. Jackson, Teller, Jordon, Hendershott and Worrall. All these have passed away, but their faithful ministrations are remembered where they lived and worked.

Dr. Alfred Potter was one of the early doctors of Casstown, a homely, rough featured man, given over at times to mild mannered profanity, but withal a capable friend of the sick, kind hearted and always ready to respond to the most arduous call. It would be next to impossible to catalogue the old physicians of the county. Many are entirely forgotten and the record of them is but the slightest. They lived in the day of poor fees and hard work, but this did not daunt them. They were the pioneers in medicine among us and blazed the way for the present day practitioner.

The Medical Profession of Miami County at the present day stands high. It is composed of representatives who have attained deserved recognition in their calling. The advancement in medical science during the past thirty years has been welcomed by the physicians of Miami County and all keep pace with the latest discoveries in that branch. The smallest communities are now supplied with capable doctors, whereas not many years ago they were devoid of this convenience.

There was established within the county a few years ago "The Miami County Medical Society." It is now one of the most progressive medical bodies in the State and is officered as follows: President, Dr. S. S. Hartman, Tippecanoe City; vice-president, Dr. L. A. Ruhl, Covington; secretary and treasurer, Dr. R. L. Kunkle, Piqua. Members of the Legislative Committee—Dr. A. B. Frame, Piqua; Dr. Van S. Deaton, Alcony; Censors: Dr. R. M. O'Ferrall, Piqua, and Dr. W. R. Thompson, Troy.

Following is a complete list of the resident physicians of the county:

PIQUA.

A. B. Frame, A. S. Ashton, J. B. Baker, J. H. Baker, R. M. O'Farrall, R. M. Shannon, W. J. Prince, R. L. Kunkle, J. E. Murray, J. H. Lowe, L. E. Reck, W. J. Kelly, J. B. Tennell, F. E. Kitsmiller, C. R. Coffeen, F. M. Hunt. M. E. McManes, C. E. Hetherington, R. D. Burnham, F. E. Adams, J. C. Fahnesteck, R. L. Hyde, P. L. Snorf, Ada L. Malick. J. R. Caywood. L. Alf, J. Funderberg, H. H. Gravatt, L. D. Trowbridge, W. N. Unkefer.

TROY.

W. R. Thompson, T. M. Wright, G. E. McCollough, J. S. Shinn, H. E. Shilling, Warren Coleman, C. A. Hartley, W. W. Baker, E. B. Davis, P. F. Eagle, L. M. Lindenberger, J. W. Means, R. C. Wolcott, M. G. Wright.

TIPPECANOE CITY.

S. D. Hartman. J. D. Miller, H. H. Havens, W. E. Widener, B. J. Kendall, C. B. Benson.

COVINGTON.

H. W. Kendall, C. E. Gaines, S. A. Rosenberger, A. C. Miller, M. M. Brubaker, L. A. Ruhl, W. M. Gaines.

WEST MILTON.

G. Jennings, S. Jennings, E. W. Spitler, G. C. Ullery.

BRADFORD.

C. W. Bausman, W. H. Minton, J. Ballinger, A. Minton, H. M. Foreman.

PLEASANT HILL.

A. J. Bausman, S. N. Bausman, J. Teeter, W. Patty.

FLETCHER.

I. C. Kiser, J. E. Shellbarger.

LAURA.

S. S. Hoover, C. R. Coate, S. P. Neff, Anson Troy.

BRANDT.

J. C. Walton.

POTSDAM.

W. Shellabarger.

LENA.

H. B. Denman.

LUDLOW FALLS.

W. E. Durr.

ALCONY.

Van S. Deaton.

CASSTOWN.

R. L. Brown.

CONOVER.

J. L. Lauer.

Not all the above physicians are members of the Miami County Medical Society, but it is believed that before long this active organization will embrace the whole local profession. The medical corps of the county, as listed above, is well known throughout the state and is noted for its progressiveness in the art of healing. During the past century medical advance in the county has been great. The old system of practice has passed away and there remains of it at the present day nothing but a memory. It may be said in conclusion that the medical profession of the county has a record to be proud of and that it keeps in the foremost rank of research and discovery in its particular domain.

CHAPTER XVIII.

THE PIONEER PREACHER

Charles Frederick Post, the Missionary—The Presbyterians, Baptists and Catholics Early Represented—Controversialism—Salary of the Backwoods Preacher—Hardships Endured—His Devotion—Stories of the Itinerant Preachers—The Results They Accomplished.

> But when the Sabbath gatherings press
> Like armies from the wilderness,
> 'Tis then the dim old woods afford
> The sanctuary of the Lord;
> The Holy Spirit breathes around—
> The forest glade is sacred ground.
>
> *Mrs. Hemans.*

Of the pioneer preachers of Miami County a volume might be written. They were the first to bring the word of truth into the wilderness, though the Bible came with the first settlers who crossed the barrier of the Alleghenies, or brought their little families from the plantations of the South. When the first circuit rider lifted his voice in this region, exhorting all to "flee from the wrath to come," this county was indeed a wilderness. Along its streams roamed the predatory wolf and the restless red man parted the waters with the prow of his birchen canoe. The sweet and sacred story of the Cross was told and retold beneath the sturdy oaks of the Miami forests and the four-footed denizens of the wild paused and listened to the first hymns that soared heavenward from the lips of the little bands of worshippers. The scented groves of that day were truly "God's first temples."

One of the first, if not the first, minister to enter the forest of Ohio was Charles Frederick Post, a Moravian missionary, a calm, simple-hearted and intrepid man. He was sent into Ohio after the defeat of Braddock to preach the gospel, as well as to win the Indians over to the cause of the English; and he zealously did both. At the close of the Pontiac War, in 1761, Post returned to the valley of the Muskingum and settled among the Delawares. He was assisted in his labors by the celebrated Heckenwelder and afterward by David Zeisberger, another devoted servant of God, and the three founded the town of Gnadenhutten, which was afterward destroyed by a lot of fanatical white settlers, and its Indian converts massacred.

It was not until after the close of the Revolutionary War that the tide of pioneer preaching reached the real valley of the Ohio. It swept northward from Kentucky, headed by the good old itinerant who rode from settlement to settlement with Bible and saddlebags, preaching wherever he could find a congregation, however small. He did as much to civilize the wilderness as those who wielded the axe, and built towns where naught but the unbroken forest had been.

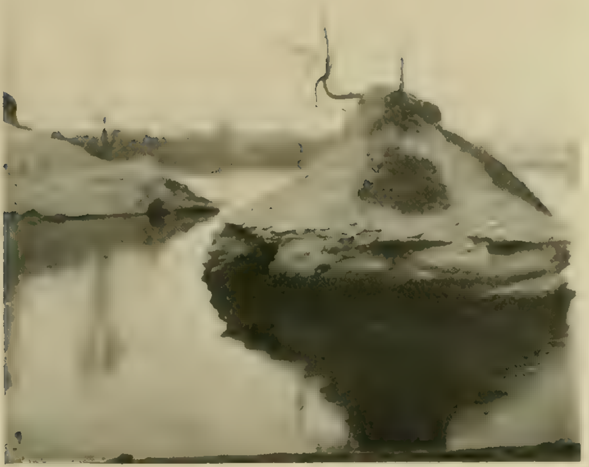
Strong and powerful men were the backwoods preachers, and their mentality was equal to their physical strength. They knew no fear. Imbued with the Holy Spirit, they set up the altar of the Most High God in the most remote localities, undaunted by adverse circumstances, and surrounded by dangers, seen and unseen. These heroic men of different denominations came from different localities. The first Presbyterians emigrated from Kentucky, the Baptists from Virginia, where they had suffered much persecution, and John Haw and Benjamin Odgen were the first followers of John Wesley to cross the Alleghanies. The Roman Catholics sought the new West from Maryland and, loyal to their church, they grouped themselves in neighborhoods where they could enjoy its first instruction and offices. And now after the lapse of a century these classes are walking in the faith of their fathers. For some time there was much antagonism, a sort of pugnacious rivalry or "free fight" between denominations in this region. They were great controversialists, and there was an immense din about Baptism and Pedo-Baptism, Free Grace and Predestination, Falling from Grace and the Perseverance of the Saints, but at no time did the pioneer preachers forget the holiness of their mission.

The ministry of the church of the wilderness assumed the position and responsibility of their calling under the confident belief that each man of them was specially called and sent forth by the Holy Spirit of peace and power as the ambassador of Christ. The office of the backwoods preacher was no sinecure. His field of labor was the world. His salary rarely exceeded seventy dollars and in later times he considered himself

"Passing rich at forty pounds a year."

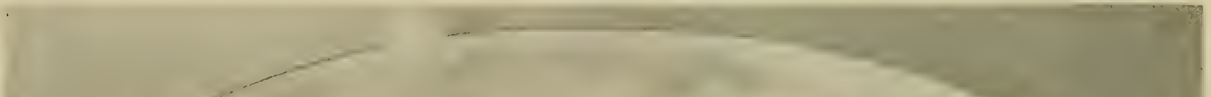
Nothing more was allowed a man with a wife than without one, for it was understood by the ministers of the old church that a preacher had no business with a wife and that he was a great deal better without. Francis Asbury, the pioneer Methodist, discountenanced matrimony, and Bishop McKendree, after whom McKendree Chapel was named, remained a bachelor. It was Asbury who said, upon hearing that one of his preachers had married: "I fear the women and the devil will get all my preachers."

The early ministers of Miami County had small encouragement, indeed, in the way of pecuniary support to which they could look forward. They came to the wilderness to face perils, want, weariness, unkindness, cold and hunger. The bare earth in winter and summer was three-fourths of the time their bed, a saddle their pillow and the sky their coverlet. They studied the hymn-book nearly as devotedly and constantly as the Bible, and with these two they had an arsenal from which they could bring forth weapons adapted to every emergency. When some obstreperous sinner disturbed their meetings they strode down from the backwoods pulpit and ejected the offender by main force, after which the sermon was resumed as if nothing had happened. On one occasion a Spring Creek disturber was seized



SUGAR LOAF—SWIFT RUN LAKE

THE TUMBLES—SWIFT RUN LAKE



FAVORITE STOVE & RANGE CO.'S PLANT, PIQUA

by the stalwart preacher and carried to the nearest water, where he received an immersion not at all to his liking.

What of the preaching of these, our pioneer men of God? They not only knew the Bible, but they knew other books as well. Young and Milton were intimate companions of these old wayfarers. Miltonic descriptions of perdition abounded in their preaching, and the Judgment with all the solemn array of the Last Assize was vividly delineated by them. Their rather topographical descriptions of the good and bad worlds met with favor by their audiences. The earnest lives of the settlers, filled with necessities and arduous struggles to supply them, must have appropriate religious food; and these simple-hearted, firmly believing crusaders of the wilderness were just the men to give it to them. There was an immense deal of force and stamina in the method of the first preachers of the country. They spoke loud and with the whole body; their feet and hands were put in requisition as well as their tongues and head. They had to make their sermons as they were traveling along the way, and a hard, rugged way it was.

An interesting anecdote is told of one of our old itinerants who invaded the Stillwater Valley in the early days. He had spent one night out in the cold and there was a prospect of spending another in the same cheerless manner. He thought of his lonely journey and of the perils that compassed it. Then his faith lifted him to a better, brighter world, its rest and reward for the wayfarer, and he thought of the good Father and of the angels that are sent to succor and to minister, and his heart presently filled with overflowing gladness, and he struck up a hymn, for he was a famous singer:

"Peace, troubled soul; thou needst not fear,
Thy great Provider still is near;
Who fed thee last will feed thee still,
Be calm and sink into His will."

He went on with the song and looking about him, saw that he was near a house, for its woman and the children were crowding about him with tears in their eyes. As he concluded, the old lady shouted: "Pete, put up the gentleman's horse. Girls, have a good supper for the preacher." And thus he was fed and lodged for a song.

Another story pertaining to the pioneer preachers who brought the gospel into this locality may also be told here. The old gospel wayfarer, after preaching in Indiana, came to try for the saving of souls among the growing settlements along the Miami. Himself and family had barely enough to keep body and soul together. The wolf was constantly at the door. They had borne their poverty without a murmur. The preacher was much beloved, tall, slender, graceful, with a winning countenance, a kindly eye where flashed the fire of genius, a voice silvery and powerful in speech, sweet as a wind-harp in song. As this country began to settle more a large land-holder, much attached to the preacher, knowing his poverty, wished to make an expression of his grateful regard and affection. Therefore he presented him with a title-deed to a quarter section of land. The man of God went his way with a glad and humble heart, that there was provision made for his own advancing age and the wants of his rising family. In three months he returned. Alighting at the gate, he removed his saddle bags and began to fumble in their capacious pockets. As he reached the door where stood his friendly host to welcome him he drew out the parchment, saying:

"Here, sir, I want to give you back your title-deed." "What's the matter?" asked his friend, "Any flaw in it?" "No." "Isn't it good land?" "Good as any in the State." "Sickly situation?" "Healthy as any other." "Do you think I repent the gift?" "I haven't the slightest reason to doubt your generosity." "Why don't you keep it, then?" "Well, sir," said the preacher, "you know I am very fond of singing and there's one hymn in the book, the singing of which is one of the greatest comforts of my life. I haven't been able to sing it with my whole heart since I was here. A part of it runs this way:

"No foot of land do I possess,
No cottage in the wilderness;
  A poor wayfaring man,
I lodge awhile in tents below
And gladly wander to and fro
  Till I my Canaan gain.
There is my home and portion fair!
My treasure and my heart are there,
  And my abiding home."

"Take your title-deed," he added, "I had rather sing that hymn with a clear conscience than own America."

Such were the men of God who preached Christ and him crucified in the wilderness of the Miami.

The old circuit riders who journeyed from Stillwater to the Miami and along the banks of Spring Creek, Honey Creek and Lost Creek were giants in their day. As yet there were few places that might be dignified by the name of houses of worship. The brick church was yet in the womb of time. The backwoods minister was always outspoken. When he chided frivolity or uncleanness it was in no uncertain language. He "struck out from the shoulder," as it were. Very often "the fool who came to jibe remained to pray." On one occasion one of these old preachers noticed that one of his congregation, an influential member of the community and a lover of tobacco, was expectorating freely on the floor. The minister had been discoursing very pointedly on uncleanliness in general, but at last he broke out with: "Now I reckon you want to know who I mean? I mean that dirty, filthy tobacco chewer sitting on the end of that front seat. See what he has been about. Look at the puddles on the floor. A frog wouldn't get into them. Think of the tails of the sisters' dresses being draged through that muck." The crestfallen user of the weed, who died many years ago in the county, declared that he never chewed any more tobacco in church.

There were many camp meetings in the dawn of church history in this county. They were conducted by preachers like Peter Cartwright and others. These were famous gatherings to which the whole neighborhood turned out and they lasted for days. There were some wonderful conversions during these meetings. The powerful convincing eloquence of the backwoods preacher was the moving force. The "mourners' bench," often erected in the forest, always had its complement of sinners seeking grace. Everybody joined in singing the old-fashioned hymns, which now, alas! are seldom heard. Under the inspiration of these hymns, frequently interspersed with fervent "Amens," hundreds professed the new life and went on their way rejoicing.

Oliver Goldsmith, in his matchless "Deserted Village," thus beautifully describes the old preacher, one of the kind under whose benign ministrations sat the pioneer fathers and mothers of our county:

"Remote from towns, he ran his goodly race,
Nor e'er had changed, nor wished to change his place,
Unskilled he to fawn or seek for power
By doctrines fashioned to the varying hour;
Thus to relieve the wretched was his pride,
And e'en his failings leaned to Virtue's side,
But in his duty, prompt at every call,
He watched and wept, he prayed and felt for all.
He tried each art, reproved each dull delay,
Allured to brighter worlds and led the way,
To them his heart, his love, his griefs were given,
But all his serious thoughts had rest in heaven."

The true worth of the pioneer preacher cannot be computed. He did a great work among the settlements along the Miami. Poverty had no terrors for him. He builded up little congregations which in time became the foremost ones of the county. His whole soul was in his mission. He visited the sick, comforted the mourner, prayed with the dying and often read the burial service to the howl of the sneaking wolf. He carried his saddle bags through the snows of winter, forded the Miami amid the howlings of the tempest and appeared an angel of light to the little family around the pioneer hearth. And when his sacred work was ended he ''folded the drapery of his couch about him'' and, secure in the great reward which was to be his, bowed to the will of God and passed from the stage of action.

I have written this description of the backwoods evangels in order to let the present generation know what sort of men carried the Cross through our county in the days of its formation. They had the zeal of the Crusader without his fanaticism, the perseverance of Napoleon without his ambition. They seemed to see the grandeur which was to come when they were gone, the building of a populous commonwealth where their forest altars were erected. They preached not for the present alone, but for the future. They endured the pangs of hunger and slept on the flowerless couch of poverty that coming generations, seeing their good work, might take it up and carry it to full fruition. From the tireless efforts of these earnest ministers of God arose the present state of religion which the county enjoys.

There is nothing so interesting in our history as the labors of the little band of men who carried the Word up and down the Miami. The rains and snows of a century have blotted out their footsteps, their graves are hidden in out-of-the-way places, the modest tombstones erected over them have crumbled away and their very names are in many instances, forgotten, but the work they did is written on the imperishable tablets of the Most High. Miami County owes to her first ''sowers of the seed of righteousness'' a debt of gratitude beyond her power to fully pay. There are no living duplicates of these men, for the times have changed and the wilderness has disappeared. They were the men for the times, they came forth when they were needed, did their work nobly and, passing, left the infant church to the care of the earnest believers who were to come after them. Peace to their ashes!

CHAPTER XIX.

PRESENT RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS OF THE COUNTY

Local History of the Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians, Lutherans, Friends or Quakers, Episcopalians—German Baptists—Christians, Roman Catholics, Etc.

With the passing of the pioneer preacher the religious development of the county was rapid. Houses of worship sprang up in every direction. These were suited to the times, for congregations as yet were small, and the beginnings were meager but gave promise of better things. In order to intelligently trace the rise of the different denominations in the county I shall take them up one by one, giving in a nutshell the history of each.

THE BAPTISTS.

Not long after the formation of the county in 1807 this denomination organized a church at Troy. Its first preacher was Stephen Riddle, a boastful man who had spent much of his life among the Indians. He is said to have had his ears pierced for leaden pendants and he frequently boasted that during his sojourn with the tribes he had killed white people. Whether his statements caused his stay with the Troy brethren to be brief, I do not know, but at any rate he didn't remain long. About 1813 a log church was built. This edifice was heated by a tin-plate stove which proved obstreperous on several occasions. A man named Stapleton now had the care of the flock. Later on the log church disappeared and a better house of God arose on the corner of Franklin and Cherry Streets. In 1834 a meeting was held in this edifice and regular articles of incorporation were prepared. The organization was completed the same year and J. L. Moore was chosen pastor. In 1838 E. French preached for the congregation and during the same year Samuel Hervey and Z. Eaton were pastors. This denomination continued to prosper at Troy and today the Baptists have a large membership. The present pastor is Rev. D. W. Holt.

In 1830 the Baptists erected their first church in Piqua. It was an inadequate structure, but services continued to be held in it till 1848, when a new church was built on the corner of High and Wayne Streets. Among the noted divines who occupied this pulpit are Rev. John L. Moore, John E. Thomas, David E. Thomas, Dr. Shephardson and Lyman Fisher. The founders of the Piqua Baptist Church were the Mannings, Hilliards, Blues, McCampbells, Garveys, Drakes and Cavins.

Piqua now has three commodious Baptist churches with the following pastors: Parke Avenue Baptist, Dr. Wilson; Calvary Baptist, Rev. J. W. Beck; First Baptist, I. M. Lloyd.

The first meetings of the Tippecanoe Baptists were held in the old schoolhouse in 1851, at which time the congregation comprised but twelve persons. The first pastor was L. C. Carr. A new church was erected in 1878 and at the present time William Pieffer is the resident pastor. This church has risen from small beginnings to be one of the pillars of this particular faith in the county. East of the river the Baptists have several congregations. The Baptist church at Fletcher was organized in 1861, from which year till 1864 David E. Thomas was pastor. He was succeeded by E. D. Thomas, who was followed by Elder Daniel Bryant, J. W. Weatherby, G. W. Taylor, W. S. Kent and Joseph N. Scott. Many revivals have been held in the Fletcher Baptist Church, which today has no regular pastor. In 1855 a Baptist church, which up to that time had been a branch of the Honey Creek denomination, was organized at Lena. Its first minister was David Scott, who became somewhat noted as a debater and divine. This little church is in a flourishing condition. Its present pastor is Rev. Alby Kite.

The Lost Creek Baptist congregation, which was an off-shoot of the old Staunton Church, long ago demolished, was organized in 1816. The first minister in charge was Samuel Deweese. In 1821 a church building was erected of hewn logs. The following queer entry is to be found on the books of this church: "Agreed to employ Brother Abia B. Martin to lay two floors in the meeting-house, to plough and groove both floors, to plane one side of the upper floor and to make two doors and casings, for which the church agree to pay Brother Martin $20 in work at Mr. Fordyce's if said Martin should want it there; if not, to be paid in wheat, corn or young cattle." In 1837 there was a secession from this church and another, a log affair, was erected in the same township on the Casstown-Addison Turnpike. The new church was called Providence, but it disappeared long ago and no other was built. The Lost Creek Baptist Church of 1816 was succeeded by a brick edifice, but within the last few years this has been torn down and nothing remains to mark its site but the Baptist burying ground.

The Casstown Baptist Church was organized about 1851, with Willis Hance, Sr., as pastor. It remained in a flourishing condition for a number of years, but at present no regular services are held. Among its old ministers I find the names of Robert Stapleton, Samuel Deweese, William Sutton, Moses Frazee, L. C. Carr, David Bryant, T. P. Childs, John Blodgett, J. G. Trunison, J. B. Weatherby and J. W. Miller. Just before the outbreak of the Civil War the Lost Creek Baptists held a number of public debates with the Lutherans on the subject of baptism. These disputations waxed warm for a considerable period and noted ministers from a distance took part. Nothing, however, was settled by the controversy for

"He that complies against his will,
Is of his own opinion still."

THE METHODISTS.

Since many of the pioneer preachers professed the faith of John Wesley, it was natural that the Methodists should obtain a strong foothold in the county. This church has always been aggressive, and to this fact, no doubt, it owes much of its present prosperity. The Methodists or Wesleyites, as they were called in an early day, were among our first pioneers, though the Quakers or Friends arrived here about the same time. The first Methodist churches in the county were supplied by traveling ministers who came at stated intervals and held services. The congregations at first were very small, but increased in numbers, owing, no doubt, to the numerous camp meetings which were held by that persuasion. Before the first Methodist church was established here, meetings were held at Mr. Winan's house, where Raper Chapel now stands. Later on Mr. Gahagan donated a lot in Troy and a log church was erected thereon. Among the early divines who preached to the Methodists of Troy were such noted ones as Revs. Bascom, Finney, Raper and Elliott. The log church remained where it was built for about ten years. Another edifice succeeded and in 1840 a still better one was built. This church went through a remodeling process, but very recently the Troy Methodists erected the beautiful church which they now occupy. This church is one of the handsomest structures in the state. The pastor in charge is Rev. W. H. Werhly.

Dr. Dorsey in his published account of Piqua has well said that "it has long been noted for the number and excellence of its churches." Few cities of its size in the Union can compete with it in this direction. It has two flourishing Methodist churches at the present time. The Greene Street Methodist Church, Dr. W. A. Deaton in charge, is the outgrowth of the first Methodist congregation which worshipped in the old Seminary. A real church was erected in 1825 on Spring Street, but this gave way for the present Greene Street Church in 1836, since which time regular services have been held in this noted structure.

Grace Methodist Church is an outgrowth of the Greene Street congregation. For a while the new addition worshipped south of the railroad, but finding that their numbers were constantly increasing it was determined to erect a commodious edifice and Grace Church sprang into existence. It has well maintained itself for many years and has a large membership. H. E. Armacost is the present minister.

The Methodists of Tippecanoe, needing a house of worship, erected one in Hyattsville, which has since become a part of the larger town. This church was very primitive, built of logs, with a great old-fashioned fireplace which diffused ample heat during the coldest winters. In 1840 the first church disappeared, giving way for one more in keeping with the times and the wealth of the members. Revs. McPherson and Rutledge held pulpits in this church in the dawn of its history. In 1860 a new church was built and this accommodated the increasing membership. Owen M. Sellers is the present pastor in charge.

The Covington Methodists built their first church in 1836, but a year later it was demolished by a severe storm. This misfortune seems to have discouraged the Newberry brethren, for a number of years elapsed before they again had an organization in Covington. At present the Methodist Episcopal church of that town is presided over by W. H. Spybey and the church is in a flourishing condition.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, TROY

CHRISTIAN CHURCH, TROY

M. E. CHURCH, TROY

EPISCOPAL CHURCH, TROY

In Union Township the Methodists had hard work in establishing a church. The Friends seemed to flourish there above all others and other denominations labored under many difficulties. At last about 1833, the Methodists saw their way clear to build a church in West Milton, which flourished for a season and then declined. Today the Methodists of that township are represented by a Methodist Episcopal Church in West Milton over which R. O. Matthews presides.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Pleasant Hill is of comparatively recent growth, therefore its history belongs to the history of Methodism in Union Township. This church, which stands on South Church Street, is in the charge of the same pastor who looks after the Methodist congregation of West Milton, Rev. Matthews.

Fletcher witnessed the coming of Methodism in 1820 when Andrew Oliver donated land for the first church there. This structure was torn down in later years and another built, which is occupied by the Methodists of that flourishing little town. Rev. S. Bowersox is the present minister. He also fills the pulpit in the Lena Methodist Church.

The Casstown Methodist Church dates its organization some years back. I have no authentic records concerning the year of its institution. Its first services were held in an old-fashioned brick church on the Troy-Casstown Pike, but this edifice was torn away and a new church built on Center Street. Of late this church building has been remodeled and is now the finest of the smaller Methodist churches of the county. Rev. D. S. Ferguson of the Troy Circuit is the pastor in charge.

Brandt has been productive of Methodism. It has at least one flourishing church of this denomination, the organization of which was effected in 1839. It was dedicated by the celebrated Granville Moody. The Pisgah Methodist Episcopal Church was also erected in Bethel Township in 1825 and was among the first churches built in the county.

McKendree Chapel was erected in Elizabeth Township in 1832. From 1812 to the year of erection of McKendree Chapel the people worshiped in a log cabin, but in 1845 the present church edifice of brick was erected and formally dedicated. In 1811 McKendree was attached to the Mad River District and John Collins was its pastor. This church has long been among the famous churches of the county and today holds a unique place in local Methodism. Rev. John Neer is the present minister at McKendree and the church will soon celebrate its centennial with appropriate ceremonies. Raper Chapel, which is supplied by Rev. D. S. Ferguson, is about four miles North of Troy. As a country church it has long been noted for its zeal in the cause of the Master. Its history dates back to the earliest times and its beginnings were really in the wilderness. Such has been the progress of Methodism within the limits of our county. In some of the remoter portions other congregations have flourished for a time, but the ones mentioned above are the most noted.

There stands on the Staunton and Spring Creek Pike, but in Spring Creek Township, a little Methodist church locally known as Beech Bethel. It was erected many years ago and was largely attended by the people of its immediate neighborhood. As one of the rural churches of the county it has acquired more than local fame and some quite eminent ministers have filled its pulpit since its erection.

THE PRESBYTERIANS.

In 1830 the old school Presbyterians erected the first church of that denomination in Piqua. It stood on Wayne Street, south of Sycamore and served the purpose of the congregation till about 1844, when a new church was built. Rev. James Coe was the first officiating minister. He was an earnest, able man. Today this church, known as the First Presbyterian, is one of the pillars of religious faith in Piqua. Its present pastor is Rev. D. M. Davis.

The Second Presbyterian Church of the same city succeeded the one above mentioned by a few years. Rev. Graves was its first minister and he was followed by a number of excellent pastors who kept burning the fires of Presbyterianism in the Border City. When the two bodies of the Presbyterian Church united Rev. J. Thompson was pastor of the Second Church. This union took place in 1876. The Second Church has a large membership of earnest people, who are ministered to by John Montgomery, the present pastor.

An old brick schoolhouse furnished the Presbyterians of Troy with their first house of worship. This was in 1818 and George Burgess ministered to the little flock of earnest believers in the faith of Calvin. In 1837 the congregation built a house of worship on Franklin Street. This church was sold soon afterward and another erected. A new brick was finished in 1863 and after the union of the two church bodies Daniel Tenney became the pastor. The Presbyterian pulpit of Troy is filled today by Joseph W. Clokey.

The Covington Presbyterian Church came into existence in 1842. It was built in conjunction with the Cumberland Presbyterians. This church has a brief local history, though it is noted for its excellent discipline. The regular pastor in charge is Rev. H. N. Barbee. The village of Fletcher contains a Presbyterian church whose pastor is Rev. M. M. May. This congregation was organized in 1837. The dedicatory sermon was preached by Rev. Cleland from Romans VIII, and I. At the time of the institution of the Fletcher Church but twenty members of that faith were to be found in the village, but the little roll increased under the ministrations of succeeding elders until now the Fletcher Presbyterians are quite numerous. Many of the Scotch-Irish settlers of the county were members of the Presbyterian Church and brought their faith with them not only over the mountain barrier but from across the sea. These people were noted for their earnestness, a trait which characterizes their descendants to this day. While the growth of Presbyterianism in the county has not been as rapid as that of other faiths, it has been none the less steady, marked by an earnestness which has brought the church to its present high standing.

THE LUTHERANS.

Lutheranism in Miami County has a brief history. It has never flourished here like the other faiths. There are very few Lutheran churches in the county at the present day. The Lutheran Church of Troy, C. U. Larrick pastor, was built within the last few decades. The congregation today is not large. The Lutheran Church of Tippecanoe City is much older. As early as 1826 a Lutheran congregation existed in Monroe Township and in 1839 a church of this faith was built in Tippecanoe. The dedicatory sermon was preached by the noted Ezra Keller, president of Wittenberg College and a powerful minister of his day. One of the most prominent pastors of the Tippecanoe Lutheran Church was Rev. Link, who died in 1862. Revs. Weills, Welsh, Lilly and Bauslin succeeded Mr. Link. Within the past few years the Lutherans of Tippecanoe have worshipped in a handsome church over which Rev. B. W. Zeigler presides as pastor.

The Lutherans of Covington worship in St. John's Lutheran Church, over which Rev. W. H. Brown presides as pastor. This congregation is very earnest in the faith of the Fathers and hold regular services in their church building.

Of the Lutheran Church of Pleasant Hill I have been unable to obtain any history. It is a body of recent growth, but bids fair to take its place among the religious denominations of the western part of the county. Its pastor is Rev. R. O. Matthews. The Lutheran Church at Brandt dates from 1862, when twenty people of that faith organized themselves into a congregation. In a few years this number had increased to 150 and the congregation at Brandt is today in a flourishing condition.

The Lutherans of Casstown established themselves there about 1838. For some time they possessed no regular house of worship, but later on a stone church was built on South Main Street. This edifice was abandoned for church purposes when the new brick temple was dedicated in 1867. Many of the divines who filled the Casstown Lutheran pulpit preached also at Tippecanoe, so that a list of them would necessarily stand for both congregations with a few notable exceptions. At present the Casstown Lutherans have no regular pastor but are supplied from Springfield.

THE FRIENDS OR QUAKERS.

Among the first white people to enter the county for settlement were the followers of George Fox, the celebrated Quaker, of England. Fox in early youth was apprenticed to a shoemaker and while in this situation he devoted himself with great diligence to the perusal of the Scriptures. Later on Fox went from place to place preaching and boldly entered into disputes with divines and ministers, trusting solely to and being guided only by what he considered to be that divine voice which interiorly speaks to the heart and draws men as it pleases. Fox was much persecuted for his belief, but his followers increased and today they number many thousands in the United States. These people are known as Friends. They have never formed a creed after the manner of other religious bodies. They accept the divinity of Jesus Christ and of His atonement for the sins of men. They believe that Christ is the true light which enlightens all mankind, that the source of inspiration is the Holy Spirit who interiorly teaches us; and the Scripture is a rule given by and subordinate to that Spirit. The Friends believe that outward baptism is not an ordinance of Christ, that the baptism enjoyed by Christ is a baptism of the spirit and not of water. They are opposed to war and deny the propriety of all oaths, in accordance with Christ's command "Swear not at all." They do not prescribe a form of speech or a dress as a condition of membership, but they do require of their members the practice of simplicity and truthfulness, becoming the Christian and to avoid flattery, exaggeration, untruthfulness, vain complaints and superfluous or gay attire. Such, in brief, are the tenets of the religious belief of the Friends.

I am indebted to Enos Pemberton of West Milton for my data concerning the churches of the Friends at present in the county. The first monthly meeting of this sect was held two miles south of West Milton, January 17, 1807. This spot was the central of the Friends Church for a number of years, but it has been transferred to West Milton, which is now the central under the pastorate of Arthur Woolam. Mr. Pemberton served this church for twelve years. Union meeting has been transferred to Ludlow Falls and is now under the charge of Rev. Moore, of Earlham College, of Richmond, Ind.

Lick Branch, which is one of the old meetings of the Friends Church, is two miles southeast of Laura and Joseph Williamson is the pastor in charge. Center Meeting, two miles west of West Milton, was established in 1863 and has Jonathan M. Jay for pastor. At first the colony of Friends in the county was held at the cabin of Caleb Mendenhall, who emigrated from North Carolina about 1802. In December, 1806, the Friends of this county made application to the quarterly meeting at Red Stone, Penn., for a monthly meeting, which application was granted and later on a quarterly meeting for the famous West Branch church was granted. This event took place in June, 1812. It will thus be seen that the Friends established the first religious societies in the county and are entitled to this credit. They now form an important division of the county and for more than a century have kept their organization intact. Unassuming and earnest, they are among our best citizens, noted for their honesty, frugality and truthfulness. They adhere closely to their religious beliefs, keeping aloof from all litigation and that which is unseemly, setting by their industry and pure lives a living example for all.

THE EPISCOPALIANS.

This sect, though not as numerous as others, is confined to the larger towns of the county. St. James Parish of the Protestant Episcopal Church was founded at Piqua about 1820. Its first rector was Rev. E. Johnson, of Cincinnati, who was assisted by Rev. Mr. Allen, of Dayton. The well known Col. Johnston was a lay reader at St. James and frequently took the place of the rector. In 1825 the parish erected a brick church on the corner of North and Spring Streets, which became the genesis of the handsome structure which houses the communicants of the parish at the present time. St. James Church has a long list of noted rectors, among whom I find the names of Revs. Richard Killin, Chauncey Fitch, D. D., Henry Payne, Wyllys Hall, and Henry L. Badger. The Greenham, McCorkle, Mitchell, Morrow, Scott, Chapeze, Adams and O'Ferrall families, all well known, worshiped at St. James, the rector of which at the present time is Rev. William H. Allison.

The Episcopalians, of Troy, formed a church organization in 1831. Rev. Ethan Allen was the first rector. At this time but thirty-six persons constituted the whole membership. For almost thirty years Rev. Allen remained in charge and was succeeded by Rev. A. Guyon, who presided three years. In 1833 Dr. Asa Coleman donated a cottage on Franklin Street and that year a neat church was built. When Bishop McIlvain dedicated this edifice the name was changed to Trinity Church, a name which has ever since been retained. Trinity Church is today in a very prosperous condition and has Rev. E. S. Doan for its resident rector.

THE GERMAN BAPTISTS.

This denomination, commonly called Dunkards, are established generally on the west side of the county. They embrace a large membership of useful citizens. Though commonly known under the name of Dunkards, these people have assumed for themselves the appellation of Brethren, on account of what Christ said to His disciples: "One is your master, even Christ, and all ye are Brethren." The Brethren first appeared in the United States in 1719 when twenty families landed at Philadelphia. Like the Friends, they use great plainness of dress and, like them also, they neither take an oath nor bear arms. They commonly wear their beards and keep the first day. They celebrate the Lord's Supper with its ancient attendants of love-feasts, washing feet, kiss of charity and right hand of fellowship. Their church government is the same as that of the English Baptists. The Brethren are a quiet, peaceable, industrious and pious people. They are remarkably simple in their habits and spiritual in their worship. There are several branches of the Brethren Church in the county.

Among the German Baptist churches are the one at West Milton, I. K. Brumbaugh, pastor; one at Potsdam, no regular pastor; one at Covington, with Elder D. D. Wine in charge; two at Pleasant Hill, which are under the pastorate of Rev. Ashley and Rev. Isaac Franz, and one at Casstown with no minister. This, I believe, constitutes the list of churches of this denomination within the limits of the county.

THE CHRISTIANS.

This denomination, like some of the others, cannot boast of a very large membership among us. The Christian Church of Troy was organized in 1856. The first meetings were held in the Court House, and Elders McKinney, McWhinney, Simonton and Watson and Maple were among the early pastors in charge. Through the untiring efforts of Elder McKinney the first church was built, and this edifice lately gave way for one of the handsomest houses of worship in the county. It is a church building replete with all the modern improvements in church architecture. Elder Weeks is the pastor in charge.

The present Christian Church at Pleasant Hill is the successor of the second church erected in Newton Township. It stands on Central Church Street and is presided over by Rev. S. S. Main. The Christian or New Light Church near Covington was organized in 1820. For a long time the members of this denomination in Newberry Township worshiped in barns and private dwellings and sometimes in the schoolhouses. It was known as the Trotter's Creek Church. The Christian Church of Covington was organized in 1837 by Caleb Worley, who associated with him only seven members. This membership increased with the passing years and in 1870 the present church edifice was built. It has Rev. John MacCalman for its pastor.

The first Christian Church of Piqua, of which W. D. Samuels is pastor, was organized some years ago, but I have been unable to obtain the proper data. This church has a flourishing membership, an excellent Sunday school and Senior and Junior Endeavor societies.

The West Milton Christian Church was established largely through the efforts of Elder William Jay, well known throughout the county. The Christians of Union Township have several good houses of worship, the one in West Milton being under the charge of Rev. O. P. Furnas and that of Laura presided over by Rev. Baker. The Christian church at Nashville is known as the West Union Church with Rev. Cain at its head, and Rev. Maxwell, of West Milton, serves the Christian congregation at Frederick. On the whole the members of the Christian Church in the county can be proud of the progress they have made. Hampered in many ways, they have pushed zealously forward and today stand in the front rank of religious bodies among us.

THE ROMAN CATHOLICS.

The first Catholic Church to be established in the county was that of St. Mary's, which is in Piqua. It came into existence in 1840, on the southwest corner of Broadway and North Streets. It is the pioneer of Catholicism in Miami. Ever since its founding it has been zealous for the Church and is regarded as one of the foremost institutions of the kind. St. Mary's supports an excellent school, supervised and taught by the Sisters, who are known as efficient teachers. Its present pastor is Father Crowley, who is zealous in looking after the care of his flock.

St. Boniface, the German Catholic Church of Piqua, has for its pastor Rev. Father George P. Steinlage, with Rev. Father Goswin Menge as assistant priest. In 1843 the Catholics of all nationalities in Piqua worshiped together, but in 1855, owing to the increase of German residents in the parish, John B. Purcell, the most Rev. Archbishop of Cincinnati, sanctioned the building of a separate church, and St. Boniface was blessed in the fall of that year. Rev. J. B. Hemstiger was the first pastor, and he was succeeded by Rev. H. Ratte in 1859. In 1861 Rev. Meyer took charge and was followed in 1863 by Rev. Bochman. In 1865 Rev. Mietinger held a brief pastorate at St. Boniface. On October 25, 1865, Rev. Henry Lueos, bishop of Fort Wayne, blessed the new Boniface. In this year Rev. George Glass became pastor, to be succeeded by Rev. Julius Voet, who remained in that capacity till 1873. Rev. Schwab became the next pastor and he was followed by Carl Schmidt. Rev. Schmidt, in 1877, called the Sisters of Charity to take charge of the girls' school, which necessitated the erection of a new parsonage, the old one to be occupied by the Sisters. In February, 1881, Rev. George P. Steinlage took charge of St. Boniface. One of Father Steinlage's first official acts was the calling of the Sisters of Charity to supervise the girls' schools. The school quarters becoming inadequate, a new school building was erected in 1889 and in 1900 the church building itself was enlarged and beautified. St. Boniface is regarded as one of the finest churches in the diocese. It is a fine modern building with a seating capacity of 700, and as a house of worship is complete in every particular. It was rededicated November 24, 1901, by Right Rev. Thomas S. Byrne, Bishop of Nashville, Tenn., assisted by many other priests.

St. Patrick's Catholic Church of Troy was founded half a century ago. At first the few Catholic families in that locality worshiped at the home of John Danaher and there the first Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was offered in 1857, the Catholic families then numbering but twenty-one. The increasing membership and the needs of the church called for the erection of a permanent house of worship and this was accomplished in 1858, when a church was built on the southeast corner of Crawford and Water Streets. It was dedicated by Rt. Rev. Bishop Rosecrans, brother of the noted general, under the patronage of St. Patrick. In 1883 the church was enlarged to its present proportions by Rev. J. M. Freedman and rededicated by The Most Rev. Archbishop William Henry Elder. Later on a good parochial school came into existence through the efforts of Rev. F. H. Bene, pastor of St. Patrick's and this school was erected and equipped without the encumbrance of a debt. In 1908 St. Patrick's appropriately celebrated its Golden Jubilee under the guidance of its present efficient and popular pastor, Rev. Anthony J. Mentink. This church has reason to rejoice at the eminent position it has reached during the fifty years of its life. Since 1877 St. Patrick's has had a resident pastor. Until that year it was a mission attended from St. Mary's at Piqua and from other places.

St. J. B. Catholic Church of Tippecanoe City existed first as a mission church. The church building was erected in 1858 at a cost of $2,500 and dedicated by Bishop Rosecrans. Rev. Father Hemsteger was the first pastor. He remained in charge three years. The present efficient pastor is Rev. Father Van De Bush, who has brought the church in Tippecanoe up to its present prominence and popularity. While the congregation is not large it is noted for its good works and the pastor is universally beloved.

MINOR CHURCHES.

There are a number of what may be called minor churches in the county, which I shall notice here.

The Universalists have two houses of worship within the limits of the county. These are at Conover and Alcony respectively. The Conover church was organized in 1868 with a set of deacons and trustees. The present brick edifice was erected in 1871 at a cost of $3,700. The Conover congregation has been favored with a number of excellent pastors, the present one being Mrs. Sara Stoner, who also supplies the Universalist congregation at Alcony.

There is a Church of God near the hamlet of Nashville in Union Township, which is supplied by D. C. Robinson, State Evangelist. This sect sprang from the German Reformed Church and the members are popularly known as "Winebrennerians."

The Mennonites have two churches, at Potsdam and West Charleston. The latter congregation uses the old Campbellites church, which was built about 1830. The Potsdam Mennonite Church is presided over by H. F. Beck. These people derive their religious name from Menno Simon, who flourished about 1640. Their church is sometimes known as the Church of Christ. They are a thrifty, industrious people, mainly agriculturist, and well-to-do financially.

There are but two United Brethren churches in the county. The one at Ginghamsburg is looked after by Rev. Busey, while G. T. Powell has charge of the Potsdam church. There is a Bethel Reformed Church at Phoneton, conducted by Rev. S. S. Snyder, a Reformed church at Alcony, supplied, and a few country churches, the history and present status of which are unimportant from a historical standpoint.

The colored people of the county have several houses of worship, notably in Troy and Piqua. These are of the Methodist and Baptist persuasions respectively, and have regular pastors. The colored people of Miami County are, as a rule, deeply religious and regularly attend worship. Revs. Fletcher are Gibson have charge of the colored churches of Troy.

The German Lutherans have several flourishing congregations in the county. In addition to the foregoing there are two congregations of the Church of Christ in Piqua, also a Zion Reformed, a Church of Christ, Scientist, and an Evangelical Protestant (St. Pauls Church) and a United Brethren. The latter is perhaps the most important of the minor churches there. Its pastor is Rev. J. W. Kilbourn.

Nearly all the churches in the county support excellent Sunday schools. These are conducted on a high religious plane and the instruction is of the best. The teachers are selected from the ranks and all are diligent in Sunday school work. In many of the churches are to be found Epworth Leagues, Christian Endeavor societies and kindred organizations, which keep alive the church spirit, especially among the young. These bodies are carefully looked after by the different pastors and are among the foremost auxiliaries connected with church work. Too much cannot be said of these societies for they are doing a work which is highly commended, not only in building up the community but in doing good in all directions.

There are numerous Jews in Miami County and they are among our best citizens. The Anshe Emeth Congregation of Piqua is the leading place of worship for the Jews of Miami. It is a model synagogue and has for its members some of the foremost families that reside among us. The members of this sect within the confines of the county are engaged in lucrative business and command the respect of all.

In giving the history of the various churches of the county I have tried to be as accurate and impartial as possible. It is likely that the list is not wholly complete, but it is as complete as inquiry and research can make it. There may be several crossroads churches that have been overlooked, but this chapter, as it stands, contains an approximately correct history of the present state of religion within the county as shown by the various denominations that worship within its limits.

CHAPTER XX.

COUNTY POLITICS, OLD AND NEW

Smallness of the Voting Population in Early Days—First Elective Officers—Political Parties—Methods of Electioneering—Local Issues—Some Political Editorials—The Adams-Jackson Campaign—Coming of General Harrison in 1837 and 1840—The Campaigns of 1856 and 1860—The Campaign of 1864—Later Presidential Campaigns—Congressional Battles—Humorous Incidents—Present Day Politics.

The politics of the county date back almost to its establishment. For some years the voting population was very small. Elections were not held in all the townships as they are constituted today. About the first elective officers of the county were justices of the peace, or "squires," as they were commonly termed. These officers were selected from among the most intelligent citizens; they often settled neighborhood disputes out of court and were generally known as the peacemakers of their respective localities. They held "Court" in the largest room of their houses, and the yard was taken up with the vehicles of those who came to hear the trials. There was very little "log rolling" at the first elections; the early settlers met irrespective of party and put the best men in the field, then went to the various polls, swapped horses, voted and went home.

When it came to state and national elections it was somewhat different. Excitement then, as a rule, rose to a high pitch. Miami County could generally be depended upon to give a Whig majority and she rarely failed to meet the expectations of the adherents of this party. With the appearance of the newspaper in the county the candidate began to announce himself and in his manifesto he generally gave his views on the questions of the day. In a copy of the Piqua *Gazette* of September 26, 1829, Isaac Hendershott announces that he is a candidate for the State Senate in the senatorial district composed of Montgomery and Miami counties. It was at the time when an extension of the Miami Canal from Dayton to Maumee Bay was being agitated. This scheme had many opponents, but Mr. Hendershott comes out flat-footed in favor of the measure. He grows quite eloquent in his appeals for the nomination, for in conclusion he says: "I presume it is a fact very generally known to all who have had any tolerable acquaintance with the intermediate country between Dayton and the Lake that there is to be found no fairer or more progressive region in the whole empire of the west, that the climate, though somewhat varied in its character, is nevertheless to be regarded as extremely healthful. These, with many other inducements, cannot fail to have their due influence on the minds of industrious and enterprising adventurers. Already is there a strong and mighty current of emigration teeming to these delightful but uncultivated lands, buoyant, no doubt, in the hopes that the day is not far distant when commerce will fling her canvas to the winds and afford such facilities to the transportation of their produce as will generously reward their labor and toils.''

In this year the following citizens of the county were candidates for office: For representative, William Barbee and Henry Barrington; sheriff, T. W. Furnas and T. W. Mansfield; treasurer, William Brown and Azel Skinner; commissioners, Robert Morrison, John Casson, Michael Williams, Col. George Mitchell; assessor, Moses G. Mitchell, Zachariah Riley, Benjamin Brandon and Richard Armstrong; coroner, David W. Wallace, and Joseph Harlan. This shows that even at that remote date there was a lively scramble for office in this county, and succeeding years have demonstrated that the old time ''Scramble'' has been ''catching.''

At the October election of 1828 Miami County cast 1,318 votes. Of these Trimble, who was a candidate for governor, received 753. The editor of the Troy *Reporter* in that year voices his disappointment and prates loudly about ''political chicanery.'' He says in his tirade:

> "The continual negligence of the Republican party has subjected us to a partial defeat, and the great election (the Presidential one) is just at hand. The dearest interests of our beloved country are at stake and our mistaken neighbors are following a set of more deluded and more guilty leaders, in the road to ruin. Surely they will stop before they reach the end of their race. But alas! alas! many of our hearty Republicans are following Andrew Jackson and think him the greatest patriot in the country. Their efforts are zealous and persevering beyond a parallel. One from New York in the form of a preacher of the Gospel, and another from Cincinnati in the more undisguised form of a political party, have traversed this district with an untiring assiduity worthy of the best cause. If they succeed through our apathy we shall deserve to share with them the evils that threaten us."

In another paragraph the editor of the *Reporter* exclaims:

> "Shall we place such a man as Andrew Jackson in the Presidential chair? I appeal to you, my fellow citizens, a poor man far from the loaves and fishes of office. General Jackson is a slave holder of Tennessee, and is thoroughly imbued with all the corrupt and tyrannical habits of a Southern nabob and, as such, is selected by these petty tyrants of the South to sustain their interests. Mr. Adams and his adherents will as certainly support our country and our country's friends. You may, by possibility, obtain a victory, but it will be a victory over yourselves as well as your opponents; you will have to bear a full share of the evil you bring upon your country. Hurl, then, if you will, a firebrand into the magazine of our political fortress. You are in equal danger of perishing by the explosion. And whatever may be the result I promise to bear my portion of the calamity with due meekness and submission."

What effect the foregoing appeal had upon its readers I do not know. Probably Editor Fairfield had reason to think that his words would not fall upon stony ground and flattered himself that he had caused ''Old Hickory'' at least a few sleepless nights.

The Presidential campaign of 1828 was the first of the many exciting ones waged in the county. Partisanship became very bitter. One faction held up Jackson as the embodiment of goodness, while the other cried him down as a monster of evil, a slave holder, an aristocrat and demagogue. His victory at New Orleans went as nothing with the supporters of Adams. On the other hand, the Jacksonians threw all manner of mud at Adams, whom they berated as a ''lord of Massachusetts,'' the son of his father (which certainly was no

MAIN STREET, TROY, LOOKING WEST

HOTEL TROY, TROY

PUBLIC SQUARE, TROY

PUBLIC SQUARE BY ELECTRIC LIGHT, TROY

disgrace), and they boldly proclaimed that if Adams were placed in the White House the whole country would proceed at once to the bow wows with a rapidity that could not be checked short of the abyss of ruin. There were Jackson and Adams meetings everywhere, every schoolhouse resounded with praise and defamation, and before this memorable campaign closed there were not a few bloody noses and blackened optics.

The *vox populi* was not for a moment still. It was pretty hard to convince the people of the county that Jackson was not a hero, despite the speeches of the Adams faction. The glamor of New Orleans had not faded. Everybody turned out to the political meetings and the whole country was turned topsy turvy by the excitement of the huskings. When the election was over and Adams was found to be defeated the Jacksonians of the county poked all manner of fun at their opponents, and Editor Fairfield of the *Reporter* put on sackcloth and ashes and incidentally primed his editorial musket for the next campaign. There was a great turning out of officials when "Old Hickory" assumed the reins of government, for his motto was "To the victor belong the spoils," and the Adams men retired from the public crib, an event, however, which did not have much bearing upon our own county.

General William Henry Harrison was a great favorite among the Whigs of the county. His name was sufficient to rouse the most intense enthusiasm. In fact he was the idol of the party which in after years was to lose itself in the new Republican party. General Harrison visited this county twice. He first came to Troy July 4th, 1837. The Whig county ticket of the previous year was as follows: Auditor, Jacob Knoop; commissioner, Samuel Pierce; coroner, N. W. Tullis; assessor, John Webb. General Harrison came up from Dayton to take part in the Fourth of July celebration which had been planned at Troy. A great crowd turned out to greet him, the people flocking into town from every part of the county and the enthusiasm was unbounded. On this occasion Hon. R. S. Hart delivered an appropriate oration and D. H. Morris read the Declaration of Independence. A number of Revolutionary soldiers were yet living in the county and their presence at the celebration added greatly to the pleasures of the day. There was a banquet in the General's honor and many patriotic toasts were responded to by prominent citizens.

In the fall of 1840 General Harrison again passed through the county and was accorded another enthusiastic welcome. As before, he journeyed northward from Dayton. The carriage in which he traveled was furnished by a Mr. Hunter of Piqua. When it was known that this distinguished citizen was to pass through the county a committee of Whigs was sent to Dayton to invite him to stop at Troy and accept the hospitalities of its citizens. The letter of invitation prepared on this occasion follows:

To General William Henry Harrison:

Sir: The Whigs of Miami County, learning you are to journey through their county town, have deputed the undersigned committee to anticipate your arrival and press your acceptance of the hospitalities of its citizens.

The Committee on this occasion are proud to say in behalf of their Whig brethren of Miami County that they are no worshipers of men, they bow not the neck nor bend the knee to human individuality, but freely surrender their hearts to great, good and glorious actions, therefore we pray you to regard this as a tribute of deferential respect for your character as a faithful public servant, a distinguished military leader, a frank politician and an honest man.

But this homage contemplates a still higher object,

> as connected with the integrity of our political institutions. Through you, sir, as a type of all their bright hopes for this country, the Whigs of Miami County confidently expect to realize one of the greatest moral revolutions embraced in the history of man, a revolution that is to restore to our abused people their legitimate sovereignty, their rights and prosperity, which are now despoiled and trodden under foot by a dishonest, imperious and reckless faction.
>
> Levi Hart,
> Asa Coleman,
> William Barbee,
> Th. M. Bosson,
> Committee.

The county did not see another great campaign till that of 1860, which, as all know, resulted in the election of Lincoln and the inauguration of the Civil War. The Fremont campaign of 1856 was a spirited affair, but it was as nothing compared to the one which followed it. The threats of the South that Lincoln's election would bring about disunion were either laughed at by the Republicans of this county or treated with contempt. The political club came into vogue with the campaign of 1860—the Wide Awakes, the Rail Splitters, and kindred organizations. These were formed by men of all ages, but largely by the young men, many of whom were soon to lay down their lives in battle. There were barbecues, torchlight processions, turpentine balls, and what not. There was an ox-roast at Troy, but the weather turned cold and the undone carcass was distributed among a great crowd of enthusiastic Republicans. Miami County at this time had drifted away from whatever Democratic moorings she had had and was for Lincoln. The old Whig families had become Republican and the nearness of war had caused many Democrats to desert Douglas; men who afterward became famous in both civil and military life stumped the county and excitement ran high. Uniformed clubs marched day and night. It was the day of the brass band and the night of the turpentine ball and the skyrocket. When a farmer went to a Lincoln meeting at Troy or Piqua he took the whole family along and did not refuse to array himself in all the Republican paraphernalia in sight. It was also the day-birth of the political song and singing clubs rendered the air melodious. Following is a stanza of one of the campaign songs that were heard throughout the length and breadth of the country in this never-to-be-forgotten campaign:

"Then hurrah for Honest Abe, the old Kentucky babe,
We're going to make him president this fall,
He'll swing the country back on its old accustomed track
Just as easy as he used to swing his maul."

The Lincoln campaign was at white heat throughout the country from its inception. The split in the Democratic party gave the members of that organization in Miami but little hope of electing Douglas, and not a few of them voted for Breckinridge and Lane and some pronounced Union men for Bell and Everett. The election of Lincoln was celebrated by bonfires and other manifestations of joy and this memorable campaign was over.

The most exciting political battle ever waged in the county took place in 1864. This is known as the Brough-Vallandigham Campaign and for bitterness it exceeded anything ever witnessed among our people. It was the prelude to the Lincoln-McClellan election, as at that time Ohio was an October state and the eyes of the Nation were centered upon her. At this period the war was at its height. Sherman was investing Atlanta and Grant was thundering at the gates of Petersburg. Vallandigham had made himself odious by his vituperative speeches against the war policy of the Government. He had been arrested and sent through the rebel lines and found refuge in Canada. The Democrats had selected him for their Gubernatorial candidate, while the Republicans had nominated John Brough, a war Democrat, who was in favor of a vigorous prosecution of the war.

The campaign as carried on in the battle summer of 1864 was the most spectacular one ever seen in the county. It was the day of the butternut breastpin and the display of one of these emblems was pretty sure to provoke a fight. The two great parties within the county faced one another like confronting armies on the field of battle. Meetings were held day and night. The highways were almost always thronged with political processions, gaily decorated wagons drawn by four, six and eight horses and loaded to the guards with men and women; girls dressed to represent Columbia and the various states of the Union rode in these wagons and filled the air with political songs. Among these songs was one the chorus of which ran as follows:

"Long live, long live, long live Brough
Long live, long live, long live Brough,
Long live Brough, long live Brough,
Long live Johnny Brough!"

Hundreds of young girls, grandmothers now, rent the air with this famous song and were cheered to the echo. Personal encounters were numerous everywhere, and in some instances the participants were seriously injured. One man was killed just across the borders of the county. A great many soldiers who were home on furlough at the time added to the intensity of the campaign and some rabid Vallandigham men were forced by them to take the oath of allegiance to the general government. At one time a mob was narrowly averted in Troy. On the 13th of August, Brough addressed a great crowd on the old Troy fair grounds. He was accompanied by the renowned and eloquent Samuel Galloway and this meeting was the crowning feature of the campaign.

In order to give the reader an idea of the state of the times in the county during the Brough-Vallandigham episode I transcribe a paragraph from an article by the late Captain Williams, since one of the main actors in the scene was Frank McKinney, of Piqua, who represented Miami County in Congress.

"When McKinney and C. L. Vallandigham were advertised to address a Democratic meeting at Sidney, Shelby County excitement was at fever heat. Thousands of her citizens gathered in Sidney to hear the speaking. By a singular coincidence a regiment of soldiers were in the town awaiting transportation to their homes in Michigan. They had encamped on the street leading from the depot to the hotel. Perhaps some of the Republican leaders who were desirous of preventing the meeting took advantage of the bitter feeling among the soldiers against Mr. Vallandigham to create a disturbance. When the carriage containing Mr. Vallandigham and Mr. McKinney passed by the soldiers they commenced yelling and shooting their guns over the top of the carriage and frightened the horses, causing them to run down a bank and almost upset the vehicle. However, the carriage reached the hotel. Mr. Vallandigham entered the hotel and the doors were closed. Mr. McKinney remained on the sidewalk and soon a squad of soldiers in their uniforms, and carrying guns, came to the hotel door and recognizing Mr. McKinney as the gentleman in the carriage with Vallandigham, demanded the surrender of Vallandigham and attempted to enter the hotel. Mr. McKinney placed himself between the soldiers and the hotel and refused to allow them to enter. A riot was imminent.

"More than two thousand Democrats, each armed with a revolver, surrounded the hotel waiting for the soldiers to make an attack. Mr. McKinney's cool, determined manner and his firmness caused the soldiers to hesitate and prevented what would have been a scene of bloodshed and a terrible riot. A message was sent to the mayor of Sidney, S. B. Walker, and he and the leading Republicans were informed by Mr. McKinney that if blood was shed and property destroyed they would be held responsible. The mayor was wise and cool-headed and persuaded the soldiers to return to camp. This was done and the meeting was held."

Frank McKinney, though a bitter partisan, was a loyal man, yet he did not yield one jot or tittle of his political convictions to the storm of partisanship that then prevailed. At the October election of this memorable year Miami County gave a tremendous majority for Brough, who carried the state by a majority of 101,000. The Republicans elected within the county that year were: Jonathan H. Randall, representative; Moses G. Mitchell, treasurer; Samuel Davis, probate judge; Cornelius T. Baer, sheriff; James T. Janvier, prosecuting attorney; A. G. Conover, surveyor; Jonathan C. Coate, commissioner; John D. DeWeese, infirmary director; J. C. Horton, coroner. All these men have passed away.

The Grant and Colfax (1868) and the Grant and Wilson (1872) and the Hayes and Tilden (1876) campaigns witnessed the last days of torchlight politics in the county. The Hayes and Tilden campaign was attended with more or less excitement, owing to the long uncertainty that followed it, but the Lincoln and Vallandigham episodes were the high water marks of political excitement among our people.

There have been some noted Congressional battles in the county, notably those of 1886 and 1890, when Captain Williams led the Republicans in the former year and W. P. Orr in the latter. A good many exciting county conventions have been held. The old court room, now the I. O. O. F. Hall in Troy, witnessed a number of these. It was seldom that Troy and Piqua could agree on a ticket in the early days. It seemed to be regarded as the religious duty of one town to blight the political ambition of the other. For a long time Piqua came down to Troy with her candidates and went home shorn. In not a few instances the partisans adjourned to the outside of the Convention hall and indulged in more than vocal arguments. It was the day of the mass and the delegate conventions. The outside townships were labored with industriously and more than once the mere fraction of a vote secured a political triumph.

A good many humorous incidents punctuated the past campaigns and conventions. Some years ago a certain candidate for state senator addressed a Republican meeting in one of the smaller towns of the county. In the midst of his eloquent argument he asserted that the Civil War had cost the Government "the enormous sum of two hundred thousand dollars." "Aren't you a little low, Mr. G——?" interrupted one of the listeners. "Don't you mean two billion?" The speaker turned to his interrupter and with a look of withering scorn exclaimed, "No, sir, I won't lower it one dollar! I said two hundred thousand and I stick to it." Another local stumper in defining a particularly obnoxious epithet, said that he quoted correctly from Daniel Webster's dictionary and when reminded that the renowned Massachusetts senator was not the author of that noted book, he said that "Noah was Daniel's brother, anyhow, so it was written in the Webster family."

The older political lights of the county have passed away. The Roes, the two McKinneys, the Johnstons, the Pearsons, the Albaughs, the Sloans, the Cables, the Ullerys, the Pickerings, the Clarks, the Millers,—all these have "wrapped the drapery of their couch about them and lain down to pleasant dreams." A newer generation of politicians has arisen where the "elder Romans" fought the exciting battles of partisanship.

While Miami County is strongly Republican, members of the opposite party have frequently been elected to local offices. In some instances Republicans have been elected by meager majorities. S. N. Todd was elected treasurer by a majority of two votes, and S. B. Segner commissioner by the narrow margin of eight. Dr. G. Volney Dorsey and F. B. McNeal and William Cruikshanks, residents of the county, have filled state offices and Robert Furnas, also a Miami County man, became Governor of Nebraska.

The mutations of county politics old and new, have been varied and interesting. The introduction of the Australian ballot, an innovation of late years, has done away with the free-hand system of voting. During the Civil War tickets were sometimes printed on colored paper, a plan intended to keep track of the slippery wielder of the franchise, but after the war this detective system fell into disuse. It was too inquisitorial for the masses. There are but two great parties in the county today. Greenbackism had its flurry a few years ago, but died with that hobby. The Prohibitionists have ceased to put out a county ticket, though now and then the Labor Party nominate a few candidates. The great Greenback leader of the county a few years ago was the late George W. Hafer.

A number of national leaders have addressed political meetings within the county, among them William McKinley, Thomas B. Reed, Rutherford B. Hayes and James S. Sherman. William Jennings Bryan has spoken in the county during his presidential canvass. All these men have been accorded large audiences and a respectful hearing. The citizens of Miami keep abreast of politics and, though they are frequently engaged in warm political battles, they never lose sight of one thing, —the good of their country.

CHAPTER XXI.

SOME COUNTY HISTORY NOT GENERALLY KNOWN

The General Harrison Land—The Randolph Slaves—Last Indian in Elizabeth Township—Revolutionary Pensioners—The July Fourth Celebration of 1827 at Troy—Prominent Miami County Lady—John Morgan's Raiders—A Lincoln Letter.

I shall devote the present chapter to certain phases of our county's history that are not generally known. In the history of every community there are many facts and incidents that have escaped the eye of the general reader. Many of these have escaped notice so long that they have passed into the traditionary age, therefore I cull a few for the reader's information.

THE GENERAL HARRISON LAND.

William Henry Harrison, ninth President of the United States, was at one time a Miami County land owner, having title from the government to the east half and northwest quarter of Section 21 in north Staunton Township. He came into possession of this land in 1816 and in 1818 he sold the southeast quarter to Henry Orbison, who is well remembered in the county and who resided at the time of his death at the corner of Main and Oxford Streets in Troy.

Mr. Orbison paid General Harrison $480 for this quarter and John Gilmore paid $520 for the northeast quarter. David Orbison, son of Henry Orbison, came into possession of this land and discovered that Harrison's wife had never signed the deed, so he rode horseback to North Bend, Hamilton County, during the summer of 1851 and secured a quit claim deed from Anna Harrison, widow of the General. The deed bearing her signature is still in possession of the Orbison family.

THE RANDOLPH SLAVES.

The celebrated John Randolph, of Virginia, although a slave holder, was not a believer in slavery. What slaves he held he inherited from his father, never purchasing or selling any himself. He was a bachelor and at his death in 1833 it was found that his will provided that his slaves should be set free and conducted to Ohio, where each should have a tract of land to be bought for them by the Randolph estate. The will was contested, but in 1846 the executor was able to carry out its provisions. It was a long journey from Roanoke, Va., to the Miami country, but the ex-slaves freed by the humanity of their master willingly undertook it. The band of blacks set out on their long journey, crossed the mountains and reached Cincinnati. Then four boats were chartered, the party traveling upward through Dayton, Piqua, Sidney, or into Mercer County. They were not well received in Mercer County, in fact, were driven therefrom, after which they turned southward and left some of their number in this county. The larger number located at and about Piqua, where some acquired homes and the conveniences of life. The number of the Randolph slaves that left Virginia was 380, and while perhaps none of these are yet living in the county, they have many descendants who are still here. The full list of negroes and mulattoes liberated by the Randolphs will is recorded in the clerk's office at Charlotte County, Va., and the court records of our own county contain descriptions of the persons thus emancipated.

Each adult child so liberated was designated by a number, but few of them having more than one name. I transcribe for the curious reader the following descriptions of several of the Randolph slaves:

"No. 215—Frank, dark complexion, 5 feet 11 inches high, 25 years old, small scar on forehead, whitish appearance on the hands.

"No. 218—Sylvia, dark, 5 feet 5, 25 years old.

"No. 221—Sally, mulatto, 5 feet 2, 28 years old, her two children, Craddock aged 7, Jim aged 4."

For several years the Randolph negroes tried to get back their Mercer County lands, but all their efforts have proved futile, for the latest court decisions have been against them. The value of this land is now estimated at $250,000 and the descendants of these ex-slaves now number about 4,000 people, residing mostly in Ohio and Indiana.

LAST INDIAN IN ELIZABETH TOWNSHIP.

The last Indian to inhabit Elizabeth Township and in fact one of the last redmen to occupy any part of the county was Wauger. He lived in that particular section till 1820, when he left for the far west, in the heart of which he died. For some years a young Indian, probably his son, lived with him, the young buck occupying his time in loafing and hunting. Captain Williams in his sketch of Wauger says:

"He built a rude hut close by a spring on a farm afterwards owned by Isaac Sheets. That spring, together with a brooklet from a spring on the farm of A. D. Sayers, that was settled by Christopher Knoop, formed a stream that ever since has been known as Wauger Creek, which flows through Sections 32 and 31 and empties into Honey Creek on the old Daniel Babb farm, not far from the old mill that once stood on the Troy and Dayton Road east of the Miami River. The land along Wauger Creek was low and marshy, and on the farm near the homestead of James M. Dye, now owned by Mark Knoop, there was a large beaver dam, the remains of which were found a few years ago in the construction of the Knoop ditch which converts the swampy land along Wauger's Creek into fertile fields for corn and wheat.

"Wauger was a peaceful, quiet Indian, and the young buck who remained with him, I have no doubt was his son. They gave no trouble to the settlers, and followed closely the business of trapping, hunting enough to supply their food, with some venison to trade to the settlers for meal and flour. He was noted for his love of money, for he never spent a cent on clothing, drink or provisions.

"Wauger had no squaw with him in his hut, but he or the young Indian prepared their simple, frugal meals. The fact that he had no wife with him excited some comment among the old pioneers, and the further fact of his remaining away from his tribe was a source of wonderment among the Knoops, Dyes, Carvers and Jacksons who lived near the old Indian's hut. For most of those named remembered the Indian village on Pleasant Run on the Sprowl farm, where there were a number of squaws and pappooses with the band.

"Wauger gained the good will and confidence of his white neighbors. When he left for the far West he gave no reason for his departure, but quietly as he came, twenty years before, he left the neighborhood and the country, leaving no trail behind him, and no information as to his future home. He was probably the last Indian that lived in Elizabeth Township, and while the people with one accord called the creek along which he trapped "Wauger's Creek," he was forgotten or dimly remembered like a half-forgotten dream."

REVOLUTIONARY PENSIONERS.

Following is a list of citizens of Miami County who were granted pensions on account of their service in the War of the Revolution, and the commands to which they belonged:

John R. Bold, private, New York Militia.
William C. Bailey, corporal, Virginia Line.
John Battenhouse, Virginia Line.
John Byrne, private, Penn. State Troops.
Benjamin Brandon, private, North Carolina Troops.
Lewis Boyer, dragoon, Van Hur's Cavalry.
Joseph Connor, private, Virginia Line.
John Campbell, private, Penn. State Troops.
Thomas Edwards, private, Penn. State Troops.
Ezekial Farmer, private, South Carolina Troops.
Daniel Fielding, sergeant, Continental Line.
John Gerard, private, Virginia Line.
Patrick Hegan, private, Penn. Militia.
Isaac Julian, private, Penn. Militia.
Alexander Jackson, private, Penn. Militia.
Thomas Kelsey, private, New York Troops.
David Lloyd, sergeant, Penn. Troops.
Joseph Line, private, Penn. Troops.
J. W. Meredith, private, Delaware Line.
Levi Munsell, private, Connecticut Line.
Benjamin Morris, private, Virginia Troops.
David Munson, private, Penn. Militia.
William Mitchell, private, Penn. Line.
David H. Morris, private, Penn. Line.
Benjamin Pegg, private, Penn. Line.
Harrison Parsons, private, New Jersey Troops.
Henry Penney, private, South Carolina Troops.
Edward Severno, private, New Jersey Troops.
Alexander Telford, private, Virginia Line.
Abram Thomas, private, Penn. Troops.
Aaron Tullis, private, Virginia Line.
Isaac Taylor, private, New Jersey Troops.
Samuel Wiley, private, Penn. Line.

All but four of the above soldiers were over seventy-five years of age when their pensions were granted. This list is valuable inasmuch as it shows from what localities some of the first settlers of the county came and enables present residents to trace their ancestry back to the days of the Revolution.

On July Fourth, 1827, a great celebration was held at Troy, at which a company of the veterans of Seventy-six was present and marched in the procession. After the parade a banquet was served at the tavern of Azel Skinner, at which all the veterans of the Revolution were honored guests. *The Miami Reporter* of July 17, 1827, gives a full account of the celebration and the toasts drunk at the banquet, among them were the following:

"The day we celebrate; we hail its return with joy, may it never be forgotten by freemen."

"The heroes of '76: May their bright example stimulate their sons to preserve the inestimable jewel of liberty bequeathed to them by their fathers unblemished till time shall be no more."

"Henry Clay: The great enlightened advocate of Domestick Manufactures, and Internal Improvement, he merits our

MARKET STREET BRIDGE, TROY

WATER WORKS PLANT, TROY

MIAMI COUNTY JAIL, TROY

C. H. & D. DEPOT, TROY

warmest thanks for his exertions in their favor."

"Our National Standard: The Eagles of Rome have long since been buried in the dust; the Eagle of Napoleon lies trampled on and forgotten; but the Eagle of North America floats high in the air triumphant and respected by all the world at once the awe of despots and the scourge of tyrants, as freemen we will support it."

"The State of Ohio: An infant in age but a giant in population and resources, may she ever continue to be a home for freemen."

The names of Samuel Winans, and of John Day appear in the list of veterans of '76 whose names do not appear in the list of pensioners given above.

PROMINENT MIAMI COUNTY LADY.

It is not generally known that a Miami County woman has long been at the head of the Andersonville Prison Board, which keeps in order that famous burial ground for Union Soldiers who were starved to death in the South during the Civil War. This lady, Mrs. Sarah Darst Winans, who is a native of Lost Creek Township, has long been prominent in Relief Corps work, having served as National president of that organization, but her greatest work has been that of preserving the Andersonville Prison grounds. Largely through her efforts this famous plot of ground has been beautified and kept in order. She visits Andersonville at stated intervals in discharge of her duties and today that place, sacred to all loyal people, owes much of its beauty to her administrative abilities. Quite a number of Miami soldiers are buried there and the modest headstones that mark their graves tell in silent language the story of their awful sufferings and their devotion to their country.

JOHN MORGAN'S RAIDERS.

Very few citizens of the county are aware that two of John Morgan's raiders were captured at Piqua during the memorable rebel raid through Ohio in 1863. Dr. F. E. Kitzmiller, of that city, has furnished me with the following interesting account of this little known incident of the Civil War.

"In 1863 John Morgan's brigade became scattered in southern Ohio. In Piqua those days all was excitement of war and the latest news from the front was upon every one's lips. No person in Piqua ever expected to see a live rebel in this vicinity, and I will never forget old Piqua one morning about 9:30 when 'something happened.'

"Two men, both young, but tired and care-worn, came into Piqua upon the Urbana Pike to Main Street, then south to the Public Square and went west on High Street to College, then south to the Covington Pike. These men were horseback, each riding a small bay horse. The horses were also very tired.

"Within five minutes after they went west from the public square they were suspicioned as being Morgan men.

"They rode through Piqua very slowly, allowing their horses to walk, no doubt to avoid suspicion. Within ten minutes after they left the public square, my father, E. A. Kitzmiller, William Brooks, the liveryman, and myself, started west in my father's buggy. We drove fast and came up to the two men about two hundred yards east of the toll gate, which was at the corner of Covington Avenue and Washington

Pike. Just as we approached the two men the town marshal, Samuel Garvey, and Zach Shipley came up along side of us, horseback.

"The two men made no effort to escape and were ordered to dismount, which they did. They were then searched. They carried no fire-arms and stated that they were on their way to Indiana to visit a sister.

"Attached to the saddle of each horse was found a small package containing a little wearing apparel, and on the inside of each package was found a half of a Union cent, the same being cut in two. This was considered very suspicious, and they were told to mount their horses and proceed ahead of us to town.

"They were taken to the old town hall, the present City Building, where they confessed that they were members of John Morgan's brigade and they both said they were glad they were under arrest.

"These fellows were quite intelligent, and two men were never better treated in Piqua than they. They smoked and ate and had a jolly good time until 3 o'clock p. m., when they were taken to Columbus and confined in the Ohio penitentiary as prisoners of war. When they left Piqua for Columbus more than a thousand people cheered them a good-bye.

"For years I have wondered whether either of these men were alive, and a year ago I wrote a Lexington, Kentucky, newspaper, making inquiry. They published my letter, but no answer ever came.

"I recently received a letter from O. B. Gould, warden of the Ohio penitentiary, saying the John Morgan men were all confined there, but they had no record as to where they were captured.

"Mr. Shipley and myself are the only persons alive who were connected with the capture, and by inquiry I can find no one here who seems to remember the matter.

"I write this that the matter may not be forgotten."

A LINCOLN LETTER.

Comparatively few people know that one of Abraham Lincoln's characteristic letters is in the possession of a citizen of this county. The owner is Mr. J. L. Hill, of Fletcher, and the letter was received by his father, who was a personal friend of Lincoln's, in 1856. This rare letter from one of the greatest men the world ever produced is highly treasured by its present owner. Mr. Hill in furnishing the Lincoln letter for reproduction in this work says that the great President often visited his (Mr. Hill's) father in Illinois in company with Judge David Davis, United States senator and associate justice of the United States Supreme Court. Mr. Lincoln's letter is as follows:

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., Sept. 8, 1856.

Luther Hill, Esq.

Dear Sir: I understand you are a Fillmore man. Let me prove to you that every vote withheld from Fremont, and given to Fillmore, *in this state,* actually lessens Fillmore's chance of being President.

Suppose Buchanan gets *all* the slave states, and Pennsylvania, and *any other* one state besides; *then he is elected,* no matter who gets all the rest.

But suppose Fillmore gets the two slave states of Maryland and Kentucky; *then* Buchanan *is not* elected; Fillmore goes into the House of Representatives, and may be made President by compromise.

But suppose again Fillmore's friends throw away a few thousand votes on him, in *Indiana* and *Illinois,* it will inevitably give these states to Buchanan, which will more than compensate him for the loss of Maryland and Kentucky; will elect him, and leave Fillmore no chance in the H. R. or out of it.

This is as plain as the adding up of the weights of three small hogs. As Mr. Fillmore has no possible chance to carry Illinois *for himself,* it is plainly his interest to let Fremont take it, and thus keep it out of the hands of Buchanan. Be not deceived, *Buchanan* is the horse to beat in this race. Let him have Illinois, and nothing can beat him; *and he will get* Illinois, if men persist in throwing away votes upon Mr. Fillmore. Does some one persuade you that Mr. Fillmore can carry Illinois? Nonsense! There are over seventy newspapers in Illinois opposing Buchanan, only three or four of which support Mr. Fillmore, *all* the rest going for Fremont. Are not these newspapers a fair index of the proportion of the voters, if not, tell-me why?

Again, of these three or four Fillmore newspapers, two at least are supported, in part, by Buchanan men, so I understand. Do not they know where the shoe pinches? They know the Fillmore movement helps *them*, and therefore they help *it*. Do think these things over, and then act according to your judgment.

Yours very truly,

Confidential. A. LINCOLN.

CHAPTER XXII.

MANUFACTURES OF THE PAST AND PRESENT

Early Mills and Distilleries—Brick and Tile Making—Present Industries of the County.

The manufactures of Miami County have kept pace with its growth from the beginning. Today it is one of the largest manufacturing counties of the State. Its products are diversified. Within late years many new manufacturing plants have sprung up. Nearly all have been incorporated under the laws of Ohio and, so far as known, all are prosperous.

The first manufactures within the county were limited to the scant population. These consisted almost wholly of mills, cereal and lumber. Later on cooperage was carried on to considerable extent and when the canal came into being this business thrived and continued to do so for some years. In some parts of the county small distilleries were operated, producing a great deal of corn whiskey. Much of this output was flatboated down the Miami and found a ready market in the South.

One of the first cereal mills built in the county was owned by John Yount of Monroe Township. Yount was rather secretive and did not give away his plans to everybody. It is told of the erection of this mill that the builder "cut down a large beech tree that grew in front of his house and burned out the center of the stump till a hole, shaped somewhat like the cavity of a bowl, was obtained. The charred surface of the concavity was rubbed with sandstone till the charcoal was all removed, when the most difficult of the labor was completed. A contrivance something like an old sweep was erected over the stump. Instead of attaching a bucket to one end of the sweep they fastened a large round stone which was placed in such a position that, when lowered, it fell into the burned depression in the stump. Owing to the fact that this simple contrivance could be worked without either steam or water, it possessed one advantage over our more modern mills. The motor power necessary to keep such a machine moving demanded such a wonderful expenditure of muscular activity that it was not to be wondered at that the head of the family felt by no means elated when informed by the good wife that the flour barrel was empty and it was necessary for him to go to mill."

In 1809 John Freeman of the same township made an improvement on the Yount mill and put up a hopper for grinding corn. This hopper was set up in a shed of logs.

It was considered a great thing, this primitive corn-mill. Rattle, rattle went the old hopper from morning till night and the neighbors brought in their grist from the surrounding country. The Freeman mill existed for a number of years, but at last the groanings of the old machinery ceased and more pretentious mills came into being.

As early as 1805 Benjamin Leavell, a millwright, came to Piqua and engaged in his business. It was the first milling done in this part of the country. The first manufacture of linseed oil, a business which has given Piqua a name everywhere, was engaged in by John McCorkle of that city in 1824. The McCorkle mill was run by water power, and the crusher was a large circular block of limestone. Notwithstanding Mr. McCorkle's industry his primitive machinery proved a serious drawback and there was but a limited demand for his output, owing no doubt to this handicap. In other parts of the county little flour mills sprang up and proved a great benefit to the inhabitants. As most of these were operated by water power they were to be found along streams. Their machinery was of the simplest description, built by the hands that had erected the pioneer cabins or guided the first emigrant teams over the mountains.

The people, acknowledging the necessity of mills, gave their proprietors their patronage. It would require more scope than I have at my command to enumerate all the mills that were operated during the two first decades of our country's history. They were busy though primitive institutions. Their patrons were compelled to make long journeys in order to have their grists ground and as some of these trips were made in the dead of winter, when the snow was deep on the ground and the icy winds howled through the forests, the sufferings of the gristers were intense. More than once they were chased by the rapacious wolf and sometimes they were compelled to wait two days at the mills before the grists could be ground, there being orders ahead of them and the miller's motto was "First come first served."

It was natural that the mills of the country were the first industries that appeared. The inhabitants must have bread, though "Johnny cake" was for some time the staple food. When there was no white bread in the house the corn-dodger was called into requisition and the pioneer boys and girls waxed fat on it. It was always a good omen when a mill site was selected and some enterprising person began to set up his burrs and hoppers. It meant a food supply and consequently more money in circulation, for the miller paid the prevailing price for grain. Consequently flatboating fell off and the first farmers bought more land with their money and were not compelled to rely on the cereal mills of Dayton and Cincinnati for their food.

There still stand within the limits of the county some of the later mills which succeeded the first ones. Almost every township has one or more of these buildings. They were strongly built. Their timbers were heavy and well seasoned and the gigantic water wheels held out for many years, or until modern machinery was placed in them, when the old "tail race" vanished and the "roller process" seemed the acme of modern milling. The Edwards mill near Troy is a famous milling structure, so is the Allen mill at Eldean and numerous ones along the Miami and Stillwater. One of the well known old flour mills of the east side is the Sheets Mill on Lost Creek. This mill for many years was the mainstay of the contiguous region and many of the older inhabitants, who as boys carried grists to it viewed its recent demolition with real sorrow. Another Lost Creek mill is the Burkholder mill, which is yet in operation. This old structure, along with the one at Sheets' kept the people in flour and cornmeal sixty years ago and survived to witness the changes in the milling system which came along with advancing years.

Among the early industries on the west side was John Mast's grist-mill in Union Township, in connection with which was a carding machine, as a good deal of wool and flax were then produced in the county. In 1820 David Thayer bought and refitted the Kelley mills and a loom for weaving blankets was put in. This was a needed improvement and was well patronized. Mr. Kelley erected a cotton factory near West Milton and later a scythe manufactory was added to the industries of Union Township. In 1819 the manufacture of linseed oil was commenced in the same locality. It is said that powder was made in the same vicinity at an early day, but the story that Tecumseh once came to the powder-mill and gun shop to have his rifle repaired is probably a myth. Jacob Embree put up a corn cracker of the most primitive construction in Newton Township in 1808 and this mill did considerable business for a number of years. Saw-mills which turned out a great deal of lumber flourished everywhere throughout the country and they were among the first industries to follow the white settlers.

Also at an early date tile and brick making came into existence. It had been discovered that different parts of the county possessed the right sort of earth for this business and there were men who stood ready to take hold of it. In course of time the cabins and frame houses gave place to brick ones, the frame churches also did the same, and there grew up a steady demand for brick buildings. A number of kilns were established and in course of time there were many in successful operation. A great many brick were carried on the canal when that waterway assumed business and boats were built looking to this sort of transportation. Many of the first industries of the country gave way for others which came to supply the increasing population. Modern machinery took the place of the old and every new invention was seized upon and given a trial. The old mills disappeared entirely or were renovated and new machinery added, water power was succeeded by steam, until today every manufactory in the country is carried on after the most modern methods. The output of the farmer demanded the grain elevator and it came at his call. A list of even the early manufactories of the country would fill a volume. As a rule they were conducted by enterprising men who were not only anxious to turn an honest penny, but to serve the best interests of the people as well.

Before the day of the woolen, knitting mill and kindred factories the merchants of Miami were compelled to go to the eastern marts for their goods. This necessitated trouble and expense as transportation was then in its first stages. Today much of the stuff manufactured within the county is purchased and consumed at home.

McKINNON DASH WORKS, TROY

THE PIONEER POLE & SHAFT CO., TROY

THE ORR FELT & BLANKET CO., PIQUA

TROY WAGON WORKS, TROY

Following is an approximately complete list of the principal industries of Miami County:

PIQUA.

The Union Underwear Co.
The Atlas Underwear Co.
The Superior Underwear Co.
The Piqua Hosiery Co.
The Stuart Brown Underwear Co.
The Orr Felt & Blanket Co.
The Pioneer Shaft & Pole Co.
The Piqua Handle & Mfg. Co.
The Piqua Furniture Co.
The Cron-Kills Co.
The Wood Shovel & Tool Co.
The Sprague-Smith Furniture Co.
The Piqua Gas & Coke Co.
The Piqua Malt Co.
The Piqua Foundry & Machine Co.
The Piqua Packer Co.
The Piqua Milling Co.
The George H. Rundle Co.
The Ohio Marble Co.
The American Sheet Steel & Tin Plate Co.
The King Manufacturing Co.
The Favorite Stove & Range Co.
The American Wagon Stock Co.
The American Straw Board Co.
The Piqua Flour Co.
The French Oil Machinery Co.
The Bowdle Bros. Foundry & Machine Co.
The C. L. Wood Planing Mill.
The Piqua Blower Co.
The Rankin Dyeing & Bleaching Works.
The Piqua Creamery Co.

TROY.

The Allen & Wheeler Co.
The American Fixture & Mfg. Co.
The Chas. A. P. Barrett Co.
The Hayner Distillery.
The Hobart Electric Mfg. Co.
The Julian Manufacturing Co.
The McKinnon Dash Factory.
The Pioneer Pole & Shaft Co.
The Royal Polished Steel Roaster Co.
Troy Buggy Works.
Troy Carriage & Sunshade Works.
Troy Foundry & Machine Co.
The Troy Skirt Co.
The Troy Tile & Brick Co.
The Troy Umbrella & Canopy Co.
The Troy Wagon Works Co.
Troy Marble & Granite Works.
The Allen & Wheeler Tobacco Warehouse.

TIPPECANOE CITY.

Ford & Co.'s Wheelworks.
The Tippecanoe Strawboard Co.
The Tipp Furniture Factory.
The Tipp Whip Co.
The Davis Whip Co.
W. H. Ethell & Co., Millers.
The Miami Valley Mills.
The Tipp Underwear Co.
The Vaughn Gas Engine Co.
The Tipp Building & Mfg. Co.
The Saunders & Kerr Tobacco Warehouse.
The Eli Saunders Tobacco Warehouse.
The Detrick Milling Co.
The Detrick Distillery Co.
The C. W. Jenson Mfg. & Building Co.
George Honeyman, Concrete Blocks.
William Fenstemaker, Concrete Blocks.

COVINGTON.

Covington Woolen Mills.
Wagner's Tile & Brick Yard.
Crampton & Son's Boiler Works.
Covington Flouring Mills.
Sugar Grove Flouring Mills.
The Crescent & Metallic Fence Stay Co.
The J. W. Ruhl Quarries.
The C. H. Jackson Quarries.
The Drees Saw Mills.
The R. M. Albery Saw Mills.
The C. F. Drees Talcum Powder Co.
The Covington Lumber Co.
The Covington Telephone Co.
Falls Electric Light Co.
Covington Steam Laundry.

PLEASANT HILL.

The Deeter Brick Yard & Tile Co.
The M. & P. Tobacco Warehouse.
The Longnaker Sand & Gravel Co.
The Busy Mail Order Co.

CHAPTER XXIII.

Fraternal Orders, Building and Loan Associations, Population, Etc.

The establishment of fraternal societies in the county began at an early date. Many of the first settlers belonged to the older orders, principally Masonic, and as early as 1812 a lodge of that order was established at Troy. From that date the system of fraternalism grew rapidly until today a great many fraternal societies exist in the country. The list that follows is as nearly complete as diligent research can make it. So far as possible the name of the order and the date of organization are given.

MASONIC.

Name of Lodge.	Organized.
Franklin Lodge, Troy	January 12, 1812
Warren Lodge, Piqua	October 21, 1841
Tippecanoe Lodge, Tippecanoe City	October 27, 1851
West Milton Lodge, West Milton	November 19, 1896
Covington Lodge, Covington	—— 1847
Social Lodge, Lena	October 22, 1852
Pleasant Hill Lodge, Pleasant Hill	October 17, 1866
Bradford Lodge, Bradford	June 27, 1905
Troy Chapter, O. E. S., Troy	November 23, 1906
Fidelity Chapter, O. E. S., Lena	August 6, 1897
Christian Chapter, O. E. S., Bradford	July 14, 1906
Sharon Chapter, O. E. S., West Milton	——
Covington Chapter, Covington	—— 1908

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS.

Name of Lodge.	Organized.
Piqua Lodge, Piqua	April 29, 1839
Piqua Council	March 27, 1851
Troy Lodge	June 30, 1845
Tippecanoe Lodge	May 12, 1854
Industry Lodge, Lena	June 17, 1854
Covington Lodge	September 7, 1866
Taylor Lodge, Fletcher	June 16, 1857
Bradford Lodge	September 25, 1873
Stillwater Lodge, West Milton	October 19, 1850
Casstown Lodge	June 5, 1869
Pleasant Hill Lodge	June 24, 1874
Brandt Lodge, Brandt	July 3, 1882
Garfield Lodge (col), Troy	——

REBEKAH LODGES.

Name of Lodge.	Organized.
Begonia Lodge, Bradford	June 16, 1875
Virique Lodge, West Milton	December 7, 1888
Trojan Lodge, Troy	June 22, 1894
Oriental, Tippecanoe City	September 15, 1898
Violet Lodge, Fletcher	June 6, 1896
Silver Star, Lena	June 28, 1896
Mildred Lodge, Covington	July 6, 1881
Champion, Casstown	August 23, 1903
Household of Ruth, Troy	——

MISCELLANEOUS SOCIETIES.

Name of Lodge.	Organized.
Piqua Tent, Maccabees	September 25, 1889
Crystal Hive, Maccabees	May —, 1891
Alexander Mitchel Post, G. A. R., Piqua	October 27, 1866
Langston Post, G. A. R., Covington	—— 1883
Grand Army Post, Pleasant Hill	September 17, 1883
A. H. Coleman Post, Troy	—— 1876
A. H. Coleman Corps., W. R. C., Troy	January 7, 1886
Maj. W. H. Gross, Camp S. of V., Covington	April 18, 1904
Veterans of the Spanish War, Piqua	——
Chapter D. A. R., Piqua	——
Miami Chapter, D. A. R., Troy	May —, 1897
Piqua Tribe, I. O. R. M.	May 7, 1908
Amokee Tribe, I. O. R. M., Covington	February 26, 1891
Demoiselle Council, D. of P., Covington	February 26, 1900
Loramie Tribe, I. O. R. M., Piqua	January 1, 1893
Piqua Council, Royal Arcanum	—— 1879
Royal Arcanum Council, Tippecanoe City	——
Piqua Court Foresters	December 6, 1893
Piqua Court Marguerite	June 19, 1903
Patrons of Husbandry, Covington	—— 1899
Patrons of Husbandry, Pleasant Hill	October 23, 1873
D. M. Rouser Post, G. A. R., Tippecanoe City	——
D. M. Rouser., W. R. C., Tippecanoe City	February 18, 1891
Chattanooga Castle, K. G. E., Lena	April 27, 1892
Willow Camp, W. O. W., Piqua	April 11, 1906
Miami Grange, Piqua	——
Jr. O. U. A. M., Conover	February 11, 1905
Potsdam Council, Jr. O. U. A. M.	September 17, 1902
Miami Lodge, M. B. of A. Piqua	May 25, 1897
Knights of Pythias, Fletcher	—— 1887
Jr. O. U. A. M., Fletcher	—— 1903
Milton Lodge, K. of P., West Milton	February 25, 1887
Pythian Sisters, West Milton	——

Stillwater Lodge, K. of P., Covington	——
Stillwater Grange, Covington	——
Order of the Gobblers, Covington	—— 1906
Knights of Columbus, Piqua	February 25, 1906
Jr. O. U. A. M., Tippecanoe City	——
Lodge of the Maccabees, Tippecanoe City	——
Modern Woodmen, Tippecanoe City	——
Daughters of America, Tippecanoe City	——
Order of Ben Hur, Tippecanoe City	——
Royal Arcanum, Tippecanoe City	——
Knights of the Golden Eagle, Troy	September 24, 1891
Aerie of Eagles, Piqua	——
Aerie of Eagles, Troy	——
Knights of Pythias, Troy	——
B. P. O. E., Troy	March —, 1903
B. P. O. E., Piqua	——
Knights of the Golden Eagle, Troy	——
Jr. O. U. A. M., Troy	November 10, 1902
Tonquas Tribe, I. O. R. M., Troy	January 11, 1906
Trojan Lodge, K. of P., Troy	October 19, 1877

BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATIONS.

Following is a list of the Building and Loan Associations now operating successfully in the county:

Piqua—Border City Building & Loan Association; incorporated, June 6, 1871; authorized capital, $1,500,000. Officers—President, Henry Flesh; secretary, Seth McCullough; treasurer, Samuel Zollinger; attorney, M. H. Jones.

Third Piqua Building & Loan Company; incorporated, September 24, 1884; authorized capital, $2,000,000. Officers—President, A. M. Leonard; secretary, F. E. Pursell; treasurer, J. H. Clark; attorney, D. S. Lindsey.

Troy—Peoples' Builidng & Loan Association Company; incorporated, April 28, 1890; authorized capital, $3,000,000. Officers—President, A. E. Childs; secretary, L. O. Shilling; treasurer, Noah Yount; attorney, J. C. Fullerton, Jr.

Tippecanoe City—Monroe Building & Loan Association; incorporated, July 19, 1875; authorized capital, $400,000. Officers—President, S. D. Hartman; secretary, A. W. Miles; treasurer, E. L. Crane; attorney, E. H. Kerr.

Covington—Covington Building & Loan Association; incorporated, March 23, 1886; authorized capital stock, $800,000. Officers—President, S. W. Ullery; secretary, E. S. Mohler; treasurer, C. C. Shuman; attorney, J. Guy O'Donnell.

West Milton—West Milton Home Savings Association; incorporated, December 1, 1887; authorized capital, $100,000. Officers—President, J. W. Smithman; secretary, J. E. Hart; treasurer, P. O. Vore; attorney, W. S. Kessler.

POPULATION OF THE COUNTY.

Bethel Township, 1,596; Brown (including Fletcher), 1,631; Fletcher Village, 375; Concord Township (including Troy), 7,187; Troy, Ward 1, 1,442; Ward 2, 1,263; Ward 3, 1,376; Ward 4, 1,800; Elizabeth Township, 1,124; Lost Creek (including Casstown), 1,146; Casstown Village, 262; Monroe Township, 2,931; Tippecanoe City, 1,703; Newberry, 4,869; Covington, 1,791; Bradford, in part, 762; Newton Township, 2,537; Pleasant Hill, 557; Spring Creek Township, 1,422; Staunton Township, 1,184; Union Township, 4,309; West Milton, 904; New Lebanon, 224; Laura, 378; Washington Township, 13,169; Piqua, Ward 1, 1,967; Ward 2, 2,461; Ward 3, 3,377; Ward 4, 2,126; Ward 5, 2,241. Population of the whole county, 43,105.

NATHAN HILL

Representative Citizens

NATHAN HILL, founder of Hopewell Christian Church. In Rerick's Atlas of Miami County, it is stated that Nathan Hill was the first settler of Newton Township. This should read: "That he came to what is now Newton Township with the first settlers," for at that time—1800—he was only a boy twelve years of age.

He was born in Maryland, near Ellicott's Mills, on the 15th day of March, 1788. His father's name was Thomas Hill, and he and Michael Williams moved west and located in Montgomery County, south of Dayton, Ohio. About 1800 these two pioneers came north, seeking for lands to better their conditions, and it was natural for them to keep on the old Indian trail, as they did until they reached that part of Montgomery County best suited to their tastes, and there selected their future homes, Michael Williams taking the part next to the river, and Nathan Hill taking what is now the old homestead. They each had a half section of land. On the north side of this land they erected comfortable hewed log houses, and the next spring moved their families. Thomas Hill's house stood a little to the north-east of the present residence. It has long since been torn down. They took part in the organization of Miami County, which was taken from Montgomery, January 16, 1807. The next spring after they moved up, Nathan and his brother returned for another load of their belongings. At Dayton the river was very much swollen and the fording dangerous. After having gone that far they did not want to turn back, and drove the team into the river; the lead horses turned around in the middle of the stream, upset the wagon and threw his brother into the water. He was clinging to the hind wheel of the wagon when last seen. Nathan hurriedly cut the hame-string of the saddle horse which he was riding to go to his brother's relief, but before he could reach him he had loosened his hold and was carried down the river. His body was afterward recovered. The return home with the dead body of his brother was the saddest mission of his life. It was the first funeral in the little colony.

Nathan Hill was married to Frances Williams, a daughter of Michael Williams, on the 29th day of June, 1809. He, with the assistance of his father and father-in-law, built a hewed log house a little southeast of the family residence, and in the same yard, moved to it themselves, and there laid the foundation of their future prosperity. They also built a hewed log house for his brother John. This was the most spacious house in the west part of the county, and many people came to see it. It came into possession of my father, who sold it to Joseph Cox, and he removed it to his farm east of town, where it is still doing good service. Thomas Hill, the father, died in 1821, aged sixty-two years, leaving these two sons—Nathan and John—in comfortable homes, wherein to rear their fast-increasing families. The old homestead is still in the name of his heirs, having passed down by devise until the present time.

Nathan Hill was a Whig in politics, but he was not aggressive; always willing to accord to others the same right of thinking that he claimed for himself. Before Newton or Pleasant Hill was organized the voting was done at his house, and the state militia met and drilled in the little field east of the house until the law was repealed.

He was of a religious turn of mind, and on the 4th day of November, 1816, in an upstairs room in his dwelling house, he organized Hopewell Church. I have no data as to the number of families at the time, but presume it was quite small, but very determined. In 1820 they erected a church of hewed logs just across the road south of the cemetery on his farm. This building was used for several years. The congregation grew beyond the capacity of the church. I have seen it packed so full of people that their legs were sticking outside at the windows. This may need a little explanation. On such occasions, the windows, being long and narrow, were taken out and those coming late were glad to get their heads inside. I remember distinctly when the first meeting was held to consider the building of the new frame church, about 1848. It was well attended and they easily agreed to go ahead and put up the new structure. It was built the next summer, and the work never lagged for want of funds. It was a very large building, but I am not able to give the dimensions. It served the purpose of the congregation until about 1868, when it was blown down by a storm. The new brick church was then erected on the present site at Pleasant Hill. Mr. Hill was always present at the services, chopped the wood, made the fires and swept the house, and kept the grounds in order. He always took part in the praying, singing and exhorting, and in a great many other ways encouraged the attendance of the members and others. He was a charitable man and gave largely to the poor and needy, visited the sick and ministered to their wants. His influence went out and did good in many ways. I remember an incident that happened when I was in college at Cincinnati.

My roommate was Thomas Coppock, a most excellent boy from near Ludlow Falls, long since deceased. One Sunday morning Mr. Coppock was counting his money; I had none to count. I saw a tear in his eye, and asked him what the trouble was, as he was usually of a jolly nature and cheerful disposition. He said: "My mind is up at old Hopewell Church, and I would give that five dollar bill to hear Grandfather Nathan Hill sing his old hymn, 'Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound.'" At that time there were two boys there with tears in their eyes.

One winter the roads had been almost impassable and grocery supplies could not be had even in Dayton. He hitched a horse to a sled and went to Cincinnati for a barrel of salt. A very heavy snow fell and he was absent nearly two weeks. The weather was very severe, and an old Indian, by name Amokee, came to the house with his gun reversed on his shoulder to show that he meant no harm. He wanted something to eat. Grandmother told him the situation—that her husband was gone, and that they had nothing to eat in the way of meats, as there was no salt, and they had not butchered. She baked him a corn pone, and he ate heartily and left. In the evening he returned, dragging the hind part of a deer that his trusty rifle had slain, and said, it was bad that her little pappooses did not have any meat. He remained with them until in the spring and then departed as he came. The Amokee Lodge of Red Men, of Covington, was named after this Indian.

Mr. Hill reared a family of ten children, and some orphan children made their home with him. All this large family are deceased, except Mary, the wife of Thomas Hill, who resides with one of her sons in Kansas City, Mo. He loved company, and on Sunday, especially, the first Sunday of each month, when the monthly services were held, large crowds would go over to his house for dinner. I know it from experience, as I have had to wait and sit at the fifth table. I thought at that time that the procedure ought to be reversed, and the "kids" allowed to eat first. His wife was an excellent companion for him. She did not attend church as much as he did, but remained at home attending to her family cares, and made it possible for him to go. She never opened the oven to take out her bread without thanking the Lord for his bounties. She survived him about eight years, living with her youngest son Nathaniel, recently deceased. She died on the 10th day of November, 1870, aged eighty years, ten months, and twenty-one days.

A fine stream of water, clear as crystal, crept out through a rift in the rock, and emptied into a large basin, almost at the back door of the house, and from there it wandered into the springhouse among myriads of milk crocks, which made a place not equalled by the best modern refrigerators, from there on through the wash house into the meadow, where it irrigated the soil and slaked the thirst of his stock. Myriads of song birds were flitting about the farm and among the branches of the large elm trees, which he allowed to grow and cast their shadows over his barn yard; and I am informed that the old elm tree is still the roosting-place of the beautiful and noisy blackbirds, which have made that tree their home for the last hundred years or more.

It was an ideal home for him in his old days, where his grand-children gathered around him and ministered to his wants. He was proud of it and spent most of his time there. He was good to his wife and children, raised a great deal of garden truck; was an apiarist and had large quantities of bees that gathered in the honey from the wild flowers. His cattle waded in pastures knee-high, and his table literally flowed with milk and honey.

I have seen him many times laboring in the fields. Even when he was an old man he would ride his family mare in the field with a sack of wheat on her shoulders, a handkerchief tied over her ears to keep the grain out of them, and go back and forth across the field sowing wheat, and his grandchildren harrowing it in.

It was the custom in those days for the

ladies to ride horseback. They would gather in and take the family mare in the pasture back of the barn and practice while he was at church. This went on for a long time before he found it out. It was about all the old mare could do during the week to recruit up for her Sunday task. When he learned of it his sympathy for the old mare was stronger than his desire to see the girls learn to ride, so he cut it out.

He was a great horticulturist, and planted a large orchard of apple, peach, pear, and cherry trees. He also erected a large beam cider-press, that could be manipulated by a small boy so as to exert a pressure of several hundred tons, and cider was to be had from August to freezing-up time, free to all comers. His orchard produced an abundance of fruit and it was always free to the public. When apples could not be had in the orchard there were always plenty in the cellar. At one time two of his neighbors' boys went there for pears and, a little out of the ordinary, one of them went to the house and requested the privilege of picking a certain tree. Grandfather told the one that called at the house that he was saving that particular tree for his own use, that he might fill his sack from some other tree. The boy went off but soon returned and told him that his brother had the pears in the sack and was on the way home with them. Instead of being offended, he took it as a good joke and often related it.

He had the finest sugar grove in the county—some of the trees are yet standing—and in the spring of the year he would have tapped several hundred trees and make sugar by the barrel and large quantities of molasses. The young folks would gather at night, boil water, stir off the syrup, and make wax, and sometimes boil eggs and even roast chickens, after he had gone to bed. He was always so good natured that the egg shells, nor even the chicken bones, would attract his attention the next morning.

The Old Indian Trail, or Roadway, went through the east part of this section, a little west of the C., H. & D. Railroad, and just where it crossed the half-section line they erected a log school-house. Owing to their being good mechanics, this house was better than the average schoolhouse of those days. It was built of hewed logs, had slab benches, sawed writing-desks around the wall, and glass windows, and was heated with a stove. I started to school there in 1846, together with my friend, Jacob Reiber, and some others. Uncle Nathaniel Hill was teacher, and on bad days I would ride home on his back. One night the schoolhouse was robbed of all the books. On my way to school I found them all in a neat pile on about the fifth rail from the ground, with the balance of the fence resting upon them. They were too heavy for me to carry, so I reported the fact, and teacher and all the school repaired to the spot, and the books were restored and school went on.

Whipping was required of every teacher in those days. Some teachers would call out a whole school and stand them in a row and with a long whip strike the whole bunch. If one should dodge forward to escape the lick, he was put in another line and whipped with a shorter stick, and so on until the teacher felt that he had done his duty; and that was when he was about exhausted.

These improvements were not all made by the Hill Brothers. They were ably assisted by the Williams family, especially John and Henry.

At my birth my mother named me John Calvin, perhaps thinking that if I could cultivate a taste for chickens, I might become a preacher. When I was about two years of age he said to her, "I want you to call that boy Nathan; I want a grandson to bear my name, and you may not have another chance." After some deliberation as to whether or not it was bad luck to change a name after it was given, my mother consented, and my name was changed to Nathan. The name of John Calvin has been praised from one end of the country to the other, but with all that, there never was a more noble, upright, honest, charitable example to be followed than that of Nathan Hill. He was a large portly man, weighed about two hundred pounds, had a keen eye, dark brown hair, and in his declining years stooped a little forward, and walked with his hands clasped together on his back. His firm step, his elastic limbs, and his undimmed senses, were so many certificates of good conduct, or rather jewels or orders of nobility, with which nature had adorned him for fidelity to her laws. His fair complexion showed that his blood had never been corrupted; his pure breath that he had never yielded his digestive apparatus to the vintage cess pool; his exact language and keen apprehension, that his brain had never been poisoned by the distiller or tobacconist. Enjoying his appetite to the highest, he had preserved the power of enjoying it. Despite the moral of the schoolboy's story, he had eaten his cake and still kept it. As he drained the cup of life there were no lees at the bottom. His organs all reached their goal of existence together. Painless as the sun sinks below the western horizon, so did he expire on the 15th day of January, 1862, aged seventy-three years and ten months.

NATHAN IDDINGS.

FRANCIS GRAY, deceased, who was the founder of and principal owner in the F. Gray Company, for years one of the largest and most important industrial enterprises of Piqua, was born in Erie County, Pennsylvania, August 10, 1821. His parents were William and Ellen Gray, and on the paternal side he is of Scotch-Irish ancestry. William Gray was a native of the Keystone state and a soldier of the War of 1812.

The subject of this sketch, after he had attained his majority, engaged in the business of rafting lumber down the river to Pittsburg and Cincinnati. He also carried on a store in Pittsfield. He was doing very well in a business way when Fortune suddenly frowned upon him—a sudden and violent flood, in the spring of 1850, carrying off his logs and lumber and causing him a severe loss. Finding it necessary to make an assignment, he made one of his creditors the assignee. This man, however, proved dishonest; turning everything he could into money, he departed leaving the other creditors unpaid.

Finding it necessary to seek employment elsewhere, Mr. Gray put his family on a raft and started down the river to Covington, Ky., where he arrived in September, 1851, with about $150 as his sole cash capital. Being acquainted in the lumber trade, he succeeded in finding work in measuring lumber on the wharves. He also received a commission of fifty cents per thousand for selling shingles and gradually built up for himself a small trade in this line. He was, however, for some time in very reduced circumstances. One day, having earned a larger commission than usual, he found himself in possession of two hundred dollars, a larger sum than he had been able to accumulate since his misfortune. He carefully invested this money so that it brought a profitable return, and with this for a new beginning he subsequently carried on various trading transactions until he found his capital increased to one thousand dollars. He now embarked once more in business for himself, having in the meanwhile added to his business knowledge by taking a course in a commercial institution. Finding a partner with equal capital, he again entered into the lumber business, having a yard in Covington. The value of a good reputation here came to his aid, for an extensive lumber dealer who knew his history offered him as much lumber on credit as he might require, and with brightening prospects he now looked forward to the time when he should be able to pay off all his old debts. He returned East and arranged with his former creditors to make payment, giving them notes with approved security.

In 1859 Mr. Gray enlarged his business interests by becoming half owner in a flouring mill with J. D. Patch of Cynthiana, Ky. This line of business giving promise of greater returns than that in which he was engaged, he sold out his lumber interests and went to Cynthiana. He had now paid off some of his indebtedness and had but two thousand dollars with which to embark in the new venture, and this small capital was counter-balanced by two thousand dollars of old debts that he still owed.

Mr. Gray enjoyed six prosperous years in Cynthiana, his returns from the flouring mill enabling him to pay off all his old debts, to purchase a half interest in the mill, and to establish a woolen mill. In the spring of 1865 he wound up his business affairs in Cynthiana and returned to Covington, having a bank account of $28,000. Here he engaged in the woolen business, leasing a large building, which he fitted up with improved machinery. This mill he operated until 1869, when, the water supply proving inadequate, he looked about for another location and found it in the beautiful Miami valley at Piqua. His first business operations here were conducted in partnership with Dr. O'Farrell and Thomas L. Daniels, the firm conducting a prosperous business until the financial panic of 1873, which put a stop to the profitable manufacture of woolen goods for the time being.

Not proposing to remain idle, however, longer than was absolutely necessary, Mr. Gray planned another enterprise, which subsequently developed into one of the most flourishing industrial enterprises of Piqua. He had some time previously become interested in the subject of felt paper manufacture, having succeeded in obtaining the rudiments for manufactures of various kinds from an old Englishman, who had worked at the business in England, and as the result of his investigations he believed there was room for a good mill of that kind in this section of the country. His partner, Dr. O'Farrell, however, was distrustful of the new project, and not wishing to embark in it, Mr. Gray, with the aid of some friends in the East bought out his interest in the former mill and proceeded to establish the new industry. At first there were many discouragements and some loss. Some processes had to be perfected through experiment, but headway was gradually made until, through perseverance and energy Mr. Gray succeeded in making felts that were able to compete with those manufactured by the great concerns that had had for a long time a monopoly of the business.

In 1881 the F. Gray Company was incorporated, the leading stockholders and owners being Francis Gray, H. C. Nellis, and William C. Gray. In the following year the old plant was destroyed by fire and a new one erected, the buildings composing the plant being comparatively modern in structure. They were built substantially of brick and fitted up with the most up-to-date machinery known to the trade. The product of the company consisted of paper-makers' felts and jackets, flannels and yarns, the orders, especially for felts, coming from all parts of the United States and Canada and even from across the ocean. Their cylinder felt jackets earned the reputation among paper mill men of being the best in the world. Their product also included laundry machine clothing, mangled cloths, scarlet flannels for underwear, and sleeping car blankets. The utmost care was taken in every department of this large concern, the best grades of wool only being selected; and every step in the process of manufacture was watched over by thoroughly competent foremen and superintendents, the most skillful workmen being employed. The pay-roll of the works numbered one hundred and fifty hands. The paper makers' felts and laundry machine clothing were made specially to order to suit the requirements of the different manufactures, the product going directly to the trade throughout the country.

Mr. Gray's success was the result primarily of his own efforts and he reaped the reward in large measure of his foresight and perseverance. Everything about his vast business was given his personal attention, no detail being so small as to be overlooked by the eye of the master. He was both just and liberal to his employees, paying them good wages, and his business dealings with others were marked by a strict regard for honesty and fair dealing. He was quick to record faithful service, and every one of his employees knew that so long as the wheels of the factory might turn he could keep his position if he were faithful and attended to his work with diligence and sobriety. Mr. Gray's death took place March 30, 1901, after an illness of several months, the news being received with a feeling of deepest regret by the citizens of Piqua generally. The local journals and those throughout the county paid sincere and graceful tributes to his memory, all realizing that the county had lost one of its foremost citizens and benefactors.

Mr. Gray was married in 1844 to Miss Rebekah Arthur, who died in 1855, leaving a son, W. C. Gray, who was associated with his father in the business.

In 1857 Mr. Gray married for his second wife Mrs. Jane E. Penney, of Covington, Ky. She died June 16, 1875, leaving a son, Walter E. Penney, of her former marriage, who was born in 1852. The latter is now engaged in the oil business in Lima, Ohio. Mr. Gray was a third time married to Mrs. Sarah Ann Kendall, widow of Dr. F. S. Kendall, of Lima, Ohio, who now survives him and who resides at No. 621 Broadway, Piqua.

In his early manhood Mr. Gray was a member of the Whig party, but on its dissolution joined the ranks of the Republicans and was afterwards a stanch supporter of Republican principles. He was made a Mason in Covington, Ky., in 1852, joining Colonel Clay Lodge, No. 159, F. & A. M., and was an esteemed member of the brotherhood. As a useful and public spirited citizen of Piqua few, if any, held a higher place than he.

JOHN EDWARD NOLAN was born on his father's farm in Staunton Township, Miami County, Ohio, February 13, 1864, and is a son of Michael and Phebe Catherine Nolan.

The Nolan family is of Irish extraction, and the grandfather, Isreal Nolan, was born in New Jersey. He was married to Fanny Corrington. They emigrated to Cincinnati, Ohio, at an early date, where he worked as a weaver, but prior to the birth of their son Michael, in 1818, they settled on a farm in Miami County, three miles east of the present Nolan farm. Eight children were born to them—John, James, Daniel, Michael, Elizabeth, Hannah, Sarah and Mary—all of whom are deceased.

Michael Nolan followed an agricultural life until he went to California in 1853, in the days of the gold excitement there, and during the three years that he remained there, made enough by mining to give him a fair start in life, buying property situated east of the present Nolan farm, which was then owned by Daniel Nolan. In 1860 he married Mrs. Phebe Catherine (Conrad) Kaw, she having one daughter, Caroline Kaw.

Phebe Catherine Conrad was born in Bavaria, Germany, and came to America at the age of nineteen years. To this union six children were born, namely: Emma J.; John Edward; Elizabeth A.; Cory H.; Hattie M. and Nora B. On the death of Daniel Nolan, Michael bought the farm, and with his family moved on it, and here he passed away June 6, 1889, at the age of 66 years, 9 months and 5 days.

John Edward Nolan was educated in the district schools and at Ada College, Ohio, where he graduated in the commercial department, in 1888. His life has been mainly devoted to agricultural activities, although he learned and for several years worked at the carpenter trade. He carries on general farming and gives his estate the careful attention which brings him bountiful harvests as a result. He is one of the township's intelligent, practical men, takes a good citizen's interest in public matters, particularly those pertaining to his own township. He votes with the Republican party. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is a Knight Templar Mason and a member of the Masonic lodge at Troy, Ohio.

SAMUEL RAPER FERGUS represents important business interests of Miami County. He was born October 27, 1848, in Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of John Shannon and Susan (Black) Fergus.

The paternal grandfather, Gen. James Fergus, was a native of Virginia and gained his military title on account of his activity in the militia. He came to Bethel Township, Miami County, in 1807, and was one of the most prominent citizens of Miami County in his day. He served in many offices and responsible positions, was both county surveyor and county commissioner, and he also served acceptably as a member of the General Assembly. Almost all of his mature life was passed in Bethel Township and his death took place at the home of a daughter, in Tippecanoe City. His children bore the following names: James, Samuel, Alexander, John Shannon, Jane, Evaline, Mary, Elizabeth and Amanda. Of the above family, John Shannon was the only one who lived and died in Miami County. The others scattered far apart, one dying in California, one in Missouri, two in Nebraska, one in Illinois, two in Indiana, and one in Cincinnati.

John Shannon Fergus followed an agricultural life. He married Susan Black, who was a daughter of John and Elizabeth Black, farming people who lived and died in Clark County, Ohio. John S. Fergus died in 1888, at the age of sixty-nine years and was survived until 1892 by his widow, when her age was about the same. Three sons were born to them, namely: James Corwin, Samuel Raper and John Franklin. James Corwin Fergus settled in Nebraska soon after the Civil War, where he engaged in farming and stock-raising until his death. John Franklin Fergus has made a name for himself in the law. He graduated from the Ohio State University and has been a successful practitioner at Columbus, for a number of years.

Samuel Raper Fergus was educated in the common schools and the university at Lebanon, Ohio, after which he taught school, and assisted in the home farming. He also was interested in the nursery business and from 1880 until 1902 conducted this business in Bethel Township, and since 1902 the organization of which he is president, has maintained the business in Tippecanoe City, but from September 1, 1908, the offices have been at Troy. The Farmers' Nursery Company, of which Mr. Fergus is president, is one of the largest concerns of the kind in the State and it has a capital of stock of $200,000, $50,000 of which is preferred. Everything in the line of hardy nursery stock is carried, and the business territory extends all over the United States and into Canada and Mexico, a particularly good field being in Ontario. Mr. Fergus was one of the founders and president of the Citizens' National Bank of Tippecanoe City, which was organized in January, 1908.

Mr. Fergus was married to Miss Priscilla Freeman, a daughter of Robert and Mary Freeman, of Bethel Township, on December 29, 1873, and they have had six children, namely: Guy C., who is an electrician, married Miss May E. Dodd and resides at Zanesville; they have one daughter, Hortense; Clyde Shannon, who is engaged in stock and sheep raising in Texas, practiced dentistry in Van Wert, Ohio, and married Bernice McMillan. The others—Fern, Jean, Maud E. and Mary Ruth—all reside at home except Jean, who died when in her fourteenth year. Mrs. Fergus was reared in the German Reformed Church and her daughters are Lutherans. The family home, a beautiful one, Mr. Fergus built at Tippecanoe City.

W. W. V. BUCHANAN, a venerable and highly respected citizen of Piqua, Ohio, now living in retirement, was for many years prominently identified with the affairs of this vicinity. He was at one time mayor of the city, and was magistrate in Washington Township for more than a quarter of a century. He was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, September 15, 1826, and was about six months old when his parents moved to Newberry Township, Miami County.

Mr. Buchanan was reared in Newberry Township, and after the district schools attended Lebanon Normal School when it was organized in 1856. He was then engaged for seven years in teaching and in 1849 moved to Piqua, where he taught in the public schools continuously until 1872. In that year he embarked in the insurance business, in which he attained high success. He was elected mayor of Piqua in 1875 and served as such one term, and in the meanwhile was made magistrate of Washington Township. A scholarly and capable business man, imbued with the proper public spirit, he has always been a leader in the matter of public improvements and a supporter of enterprises and measures tending to add to the material prosperity of the community.

In 1849 Mr. Buchanan was joined in marriage with Miss Phoebe Dye, a daughter of Andrew Dye, and they have five children living. The eldest of them, A. C. Buchanan, is a well known lawyer of Piqua. He was born October 9, 1850, and was reared to maturity in Piqua. He is a graduate of the Piqua High School and of the Normal school at Lebanon. After leaving the latter institution he engaged in teaching in the Troy schools, and in the meanwhile prosecuted the study of law. He was admitted to the bar in 1877, and has since been engaged in practice with unqualified success. During his school days he studied civil engineering with a view to making that his life work and he has followed that profession more or less since. He was married in 1874 to Miss Anna Belle Shoemaker, a daughter of David Shoemaker, now deceased. Mrs. Buchanan also is a graduate of the high school at Piqua.

Mr. Buchanan was the organizer and first president of the Piqua Memorial Association organized for the purpose of perpetuating Memorial Day.

MRS. FERN BENSON, whose home is the old Mitchell farm in Section 3, Elizabeth Township, Miami County, Ohio, on which she was born, resides on land which has been in the possession of the Mitchell family for ninety-seven consecutive years. This farm was entered from the Government December 24, 1811, by William Mitchell, the great grandfather of Mrs. Benson.

William Mitchell was born in Virginia in 1785. His father, Samuel Mitchell, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and a prominent Mason. William served in the War of 1812, after securing his land in Ohio, and after the close of his military service he engaged in clearing and cultivating the wilderness to which he had come. He married Catherine Stafford, who was born in Ireland in 1878, and died on his farm in 1867. They had eleven children.

William S. Mitchell received from his father a portion of his land, an acre having been deeded by the latter to the church, and which is now occupied by McKendree Church and Cemetery. In its shadow rest William Mitchell and many of his descendants. He had 160 acres of land and his entire life was given to agricultural pursuits. He died in 1884, aged sixty-three years. In 1843 he married Mary Robinson, a daughter of Adin and Jane Robinson. She was born in 1821 and died in 1902. They had two children—Elizabeth and Milton G. Elizabeth was born March 15, 1844, and was married November 7, 1872, to George Brier, no issue resulting. He was a soldier in the Civil War and participated in the battles of Champion Hill, Vicksburg, and Pittsburg Landing or Shiloh.

Milton G. Mitchell, father of Mrs. Benson, was born August 30, 1845, and died September 17, 1901; he was buried at New Carlisle. He was a soldier in the Sixteenth Ohio Battery during the Civil War. In politics he was a Republican but took no active part in public affairs. In Free Masonry he had reached the Knight Templar degree. He was a consistent member of McKendree Church. He married Celestia Iliff, a daughter of James and Mary (Umble) Iliff, and they had four children—Fern, Quinn B., Mildred, and an infant, deceased. Quinn B. graduated from the Bethel High School and also attended the Ohio State University for one year. He married Angeline Wright, a daughter of Dr. T. M. Wright, and they have a daughter, Priscilla. Quinn B. represents the fifth generation to reside on and cultivate the Mitchell farm. All the Mitchell family have been members of McKendree Church. Mildred is a graduate of the Bethel High School and also spent one year at the Springfield High School and one year at the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio. She is now residing at home. Mrs. Mitchell, the mother of these children, taught school for nine years.

Fern Mitchell grew to young womanhood in the parental home. She was graduated from the New Carlisle High School, after which she spent one year at the Ohio Normal University at Ada and a similar length of time at the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware. She married Austin Benson and they have two children—Raymond Mitchell and Mary Virginia.

Austin Benson is a son of James C. and Anna (Dunkelbarger) Benson, and a grandson of Abraham and Mary (Runkle) Benson. The children of the grandparents were Barbara, Sarah, Mary, John, Abraham, Daniel, James C., Jesse, and Simeon. Abraham Benson was born in Pennsylvania and after coming to Ohio lived in Clark County.

James C. Benson, now living, was born March 2, 1851, and married Anna Dunklebarger, born February 6, 1851, a daughter of Samuel Dunklebarger; they had two children—Austin and Charles. Austin Benson is well known throughout Miami County as a composer and music publisher. Charles, who married Daisy Hall, daughter of John Hall, is a physician at Tippecanoe City.

GEORGE W. SCOTT, president of the Star Storm Front Company, with plant on the corner of East Main and Clay Streets, Troy, has been a resident of this city for the past thirty-five years. He was born in 1849, in Elizabeth Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of the late John Scott.

John Scott came to Miami County from Pennsylvania, very early and as he was a millwright, he built many of the pioneer mills here. The later years of his life were passed on a farm in this county. He was a man of sterling character and deep convictions and was one of the first two men who had the courage to vote the Abolitionist ticket in Miami County.

George W. Scott was reared in his native county and attended the country and Troy schools. His first work was done in connection with a nursery and he remained interested in that for some ten years or more, when he was appointed deputy-treasurer of Miami County. After the close of his official term he engaged in the buggy manufacturing business, founding the Troy Buggy Works in 1880, with which concern he continued until 1903, when he sold his interest, having been both president and general mananger of the enterprise from its incorporation. Mr. Scott then engaged in the manufacture of buck-boards until the fall of 1895, when he patented the storm front, in the manufacture of which he has been concerned ever since. In 1906 the business was incorporated as The Star Storm Front Company, of which he has since been president. The business includes the manufacture of five different styles of storm fronts, all of which Mr. Scott invented. It is due to Mr. Scott's ability, energy and talent that many of the largest manufacturing plants now located in Troy have been developed. He is an active citizen so far as encouraging public-spirited efforts go and never shirks responsibility for himself.

In 1873 Mr. Scott was married to Miss Emma M. Knoop, who is a daughter of William Knoop, who was a pioneer of the county. They have five children, namely: Eugene, who is superintendent of the Troy factory; Guy, who represents the business in Indiana; Beatrice, who is a talented vocalist and soloist in the Congregational Church choir, at Toledo; and Ruby and Marguerite, who reside at home. Mr. Scott is a charter member of the order of Knights of Pythias.

JOHN H. CLARK, who holds a foremost place among the enterprising business men of Piqua, is a native of this city, his birth having taken place here on October 16, 1852. He is a son of Harvey Clark, who was born in Essex County, New Jersey, in 1823, and who, coming to Piqua in 1845, was long numbered subsequently among the enterprising and successful business men of the city.

Harvey Clark was for fifteen years a member of the grocery firm of Clark & Zollinger, and later became a member of the firm of Rouzer, Evans & Clark, founders and machinists. In 1873 he sold his interest in the latter concern and engaged in the quarrying of stone as a member of the firm of H. Clark & Son, they being owners of one of the valuable stone quarries south of Piqua. He also became one of the stockholders and directors of the Piqua Strawboard & Paper Company, and superintended the building of one of their large plants in this city. After having thus contributed for a number of years by his active enterprise to the prosperity and upbuilding of Piqua, he retired in 1890 from active business life. His retirement was followed at no great interval of time by his death, which took place March 30, 1902, and which was sincerely regretted by his numerous friends and his old business associates.

He was prominent in the local councils of the Republican party, and was elected and served for a while as mayor of the city, which position, however, he was forced to resign, on account of the press-ing nature of his business interests. In his latter years he had a winter home at Redlands, California, where he spent a portion of his time. He also owned valuable property in that State, including a fine, ten-acre orchard, besides quite an amount of city property in Piqua. In religion a Methodist, he belonged to the church of that denomination on Green Street, of which he was a liberal supporter. His activity was exercised along various lines in the improvement of local conditions and exerted a marked influence in business circles. In 1849 he was married to Mary J. Kitchen, a daughter of Henry Kitchen, and he and his wife were the parents of seven children, all worthy and useful members of the community in which they reside.

John H. Clark, or Harry Clark, as he is familiarly called, passed his boyhood days in the city of his birth, receiving a liberal education, including a high school and commercial course. He was still quite young when he became his father's partner in the operation of the stone quarry before alluded to, and he continued in that enterprise until 1889, when the firm sold out. Some nine years later, however, they repurchased the quarries, which they afterwards leased. In the spring of 1890 Mr. Clark became connected with the Piqua Lumber Company, and continued as one of the officers of the concern until it was merged into the Piqua School Furniture Company, when he sold out his interest therein. Previously he became interested in the Piqua Hosiery Company, which he had assisted to organize in 1886, and which has an authorized stock of $16,000. The company manufactures all kinds of knit underwear, their trade amounting to over $75,000 annually and the output being shipped to many of the most prominent markets. The business, which is now established on a very solid foundation, is still growing and its outlook is very promising. Besides being manager of the company Mr. Clark holds the office of vice-president therein.

He was a director of the Third National Bank until it liquidated, which office his father held for many years formerly; also a director in the Piqua National Bank. He is besides a stockholder in the French Oil Mill Machinery Company and in the Ohio Marble Company, and is a member of the firm of Clark & Zeigenfelder, engaged in real estate operations and engineering. Mr. Clark is both a good general business man and an excellent financier. He is quick to see and take advantage of a good business opportunity, but never loses his judgment and is conservative whenever conservatism is the price of safety.

As his father was, he is a staunch Republican in politics. He is now serving as one of the members of the Republican County Central Committee and lends active aid in promoting the success of his party. He is also president of the City Council. He is a member and trustee of the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church. His character is one that commands the respect of the community at large and the warm esteem of a wide circle of personal friends. Mr. Clark belongs to Warren Lodge, F. & A. M., of Piqua, and is a thirty-second degree Mason.

ALBA LLOYD HARSHBARGER, secretary of the Tipp Whip Company, manufacturers of buggy whips, has been a continuous resident of Tippecanoe City throughout the entire course of his business life, with the exception of two years. He was born November 21, 1859, in Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Isaac D. and Hannah R. (Kable) Harshbarger.

The grandparents of Mr. Harshbarger on both sides, were natives of Virginia. Henry Harshbarger was an early settler in Miami County and died in Monroe Township. James Kable settled first in Greene County, not far from Osborn and later moved to Bethel Township, Miami County and from there in 1867, to Illinois. He died while on a visit at Tippecanoe City.

Isaac D. Harshbarger was born in Bethel Township, Miami County, later resided at New Carlisle and still later at Tippecanoe City, where he died in 1874, aged thirty-seven years. His widow survives and has passed her seventy-first birthday. They were the parents of the following children: Harry J., who is a member of the Tipp Whip Company, and married Mary Hogendobler, of this city; Mrs. F. G. Davis, who resides at Tippecanoe City; Mrs. H. S. Hutchins, who resides at Toledo, where her husband is principal of one of the public schools; Mrs. H. J. Collins, who is the wife of a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, who is stationed at New Milford, Illinois; and Alba Lloyd.

Alba Lloyd Harshbarger attended school at New Carlisle and the common and high schools of Tippecanoe City, after which he took a commercial course at Dayton. His first business situation was that of a bookkeeper for a business firm at Hamilton, Ohio, in which he remained for two years and then returned to Tippecanoe City and here entered into the drug business, with which he continued to be identified for eight years. In 1889 he began to manufacture whips, organizing with others the Tipp Whip Company in that year. The industry is in a prosperous condition and employment is afforded thirty-five workmen.

In 1895 Mr. Harshbarger was married to Miss Kittie Staley, a daughter of Samuel C. Staley. Mr. and Mrs. Harshbarger are members of the Lutheran Church. Fraternally he is a charter member of the Modern Woodmen of Tippecanoe City, belongs to the Royal Arcanum, and is a member of Tippecanoe Lodge No. 174, F. & A. M., Franklin Chapter, No. 24, of Troy, and Reed Commandery No. 6, of Dayton. In politics he is identified with the Republican party and he has been an active and useful citizen and at present is serving as a member of the School Board.

C. G. SNOOK, who is superintendent of the Troy Carriage Sunshade Company, one of Troy's important business enterprises, has been a resident of this city for a quarter of a century, but he was born in Knox County, Ohio. After completing his public school education, Mr. Snook learned the trade of carriage trimming, at Mt. Vernon, Ohio, where he remained for four years, going from there to McKeesport, Penna., for a year and a half and subsequently to Henderson, Kentucky, for the same length of time. He then spent one year at his trade in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and one year again at Mt. Vernon, after which he came to Troy and for fifteen years thereafter was connected with the Troy Buggy Works Company, during a large part of this time being foreman of the trimming department. In 1900 he became identified with the Troy Carriage Sunshade Company, accepting the superintendency of the plant and acquiring stock in the concern. In 1893 Mr. Snook was married to Miss Anna Counts, of Troy, and they have two children, Adelaide Elizabeth and John Lloyd. Mr. Snook and family belong to the Episcopal Church, of which he is junior warden.

In politics a stanch Republican, Mr. Snook takes considerable interest in local matters of a public nature and is serving as a member at large of the City Council of Troy. Fraternally, he is a Knight of Pythias and socially is a member of the Troy Club, of which he is a director.

SAMUEL HOEFLICH, one of Covington's most substantial citizens and for a number of years a leading business man, has been engaged in the tobacco business here for the past seven years, his large warehouse standing on the corner of Bridge Street and the C. H. & D. railroad. He was born at Dayton, Ohio, December 31, 1857, and is a son of Charles and Catherine (Ramph) Hoeflich. The parents of Mr. Hoeflich moved from Dayton to Piqua in 1858, and from there, about 1862, to a farm near Covington, on the Gettysburg Turnpike, where the father died. He operated a small distillery. In March, 1864, the mother of Mr. Hoeflich moved with her children to Covington and conducted a boarding house here. She was married (first) to John Andrew Kraus and had two children, John and C. G. Of her second marriage, to Charles Hoeflich, was born one son, Samuel.

Samuel Hoeflich was educated in the Covington schools. For a number of years of business life he dealt in wines and liquors, but later turned his attention to the tobacco business, in which he is largely interested. He erected his large warehouse and gives continuous employment to five experienced men and several girls. In 1886 he erected his handsome brick residence. Mr. Hoeflich married Miss Lizzie Popp and they have three children, Carl, Lafayette, and Cleo Catharine. He is a man of pleasant, social qualities and belongs to the Red Men and the Knights of Pythias. Mr. Hoeflich is notably charitable and has done a great deal in the way of benevolence in this section. He has also generously contributed to various public-spirited enterprises which have greatly furthered the prosperity of Covington.

CHARLES LEONARD WOOD, proprietor of the Piqua Planing Mill and Lumber Company, of Piqua, is one of the city's old and reliable business men, one whose activities have been almost altogether in the line of manufacturing. He was born June 28, 1841, in New Hampshire, and is a son of Charles A. Wood.

The late Charles A. Wood came with his family to Piqua, in 1843, and for about ten years conducted a cooperage business. He then resided on a farm for some years but later embarked in the manufacture of staves and heads, at Dunkirk, Indiana, where he lived for seven years. Upon his return to Miami County he engaged in the lumber business at Piqua, in which he continued until he retired. His death occurred March 17, 1906.

Charles Leonard Wood was two years old when his parents came to Piqua, in which city he was educated both in literature and the law, and after studying under

Attorney McKinney, he was admitted to the bar in 1865 and entered into practice with W. N. Foster, under the style of Foster & Wood. After one year of law practice, Mr. Wood turned his attention to manufacturing and has been concerned in manufacturing plants ever since. For seven years he was so connected at Dunkirk, Indiana, and for thirty years he has been in the lumber business at Piqua, operating a planing mill and manufacturing doors, sash, blinds and all house woodwork. For twenty years he has been interested in the operation of a large paper mill at Kokomo, Indiana. While Mr. Wood's natural inclinations led him to adopt an industrial rather than a professional life, he has never regretted his early training, realizing that all kinds of knowledge are useful to those who are at the head of enterprises which affect the interests of many employes.

In 1870 Mr. Wood married Miss Julia A. Miller, daughter of William Miller, and they have three children, namely: Martha; Mrs. George H. Taylor, of Hartwell, Ohio; and William W., of Kokomo, Indiana. Mr. Wood and family are members of the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church, of the board of trustees of which he has been a member for twenty years, and for eleven years he was superintendent of the Sunday school. He has been identified with many charitable and benevolent movements; at present he is one of the board of trustees of the Ball Memorial Hospital, and for twelve years he served on the board of directors of the Y. M. C. A. His interest in educational matters has always been marked and for fifteen years he served on the School Board and for ten years was president of that body. Coming of Revolutionary stock, he is a member of the board of managers of the Ohio Society of the Sons of the Revolution. For many years he has been a Mason and belongs to Blue Lodge and Chapter at Dunkirk, Indiana.

DANIEL LONGENDELPHER, whose fine farm of 168 acres lies in Concord Township, on both sides of the Covington Turnpike Road, about two and one-half miles northwest of Troy, carries on general farming and for many years has also engaged very successfullly in the horse business. He was born July 23, 1866, on the first farm on which his father settled, in Concord Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Casper and Elizabeth (Favorite) Longendelpher.

Casper Longendelpher was born in Germany and was five years old when his widowed mother brought him to America. She came immediately to Miami County, where she later married a Mr. Rose but no children were born to that union. Casper was frequently called by his stepfather's name. He remained at home until his marriage and then purchased a farm of forty acres, the same being now a part of the Robert McCurdy farm, which he later sold and bought 120 acres from Samuel Oaks. This second farm was situated about five miles from Troy and there Mr. Longendelpher lived for a number of years. He subsequently acquired other farms and now owns 100 acres adjoining his old home farm, and also the old Scott farm of 143 acres and a comfortable home in Troy, where he now resides, at the age of sixty-nine years. He married Elizabeth Favorite, who died in June, 1905. She was a daughter of Daniel Favorite, one of the pioneer settlers of Concord Township. They had seven children born to them, as follows: Daniel; Sallie; Ida, who married Joseph Sigel; Elizabeth, who married Elmer Fish; Ella, who married John McCurdy; Lillian, who married Lee Thompson; and William, who married Mary Wilhelm.

Daniel Longendelpher was two years old when his parents moved to the farm on which they resided until they retired to Troy. As he was the eldest son much of the hard work of the farm fell to his lot, his only brother being the youngest of the family. During the winter seasons through boyhood, he attended the district schools but when he was fourteen years of age he did the work of a man. He remained at home and helped his father until he was twenty-one years of age and when he started out for himself it was entirely without capital. He went to work with a will and as he had been trained by a strict father, he knew everything necessary pertaining to the management and development of a farm and also, knowing the value of money, he was able to be careful in its expenditure, investing only when he foresaw adequate returns. This, in a measure, explains why Mr. Longendelpher, although only a middle aged man, has been able to build up a comfortable fortune for himself, with not one dollar of initial help. He has given a great deal of attention to raising fine stock, particularly horses, and he has the right idea, that only the best is worth all the trouble, time and expense that has to be expended. He owns eighteen head of horses on his place and owns five registered mares and two imported mares. Two of his registered stallions are known all through this section. One is ''Bud,'' a four-year-old Percheron Gray, and the other is ''Billie Taft,'' sold for $800 on May 14, to Andrew Dewese, also a Percheron Gray two-year-old, the former weighing 1,600 pounds and the latter 1,400. They are magnificent animals. Mr. Longendelpher bought his present farm in 1900, from Freeman Skinner, and moved on it two years later. In 1901 his buildings burned and he replaced them with the present substantial structures, his comfortable residence being an eight-room house of large size.

In 1896 Mr. Longendelpher was married to Miss Emma F. Rosenberger, who was born in Virginia, a daughter of Abraham Rosenberger. Their family contains four children, all sons—George, Joseph, Daniel, and Raymond. In politics, Mr. Longendelpher is a Republican and he has frequently been called upon to serve in township offices. At present he is a member of the Concord School Board. During the time he was in the office of road supervisor, the township highways were very carefully attended to. Whatever Mr. Longendelpher does at all he does well, and his thorough-going methods have contributed largely to his own material prosperity.

ALEXANDER M. HEYWOOD, residing in his pleasant home at No. 301 East Franklin Street, Troy, now retired from active participation in business, is one of the honored surviving veterans of the great Civil War. He was born October 17, 1840, in Staunton Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Nathaniel Heywood, who was a pioneer settler and farmer in Miami County, and died when his son was two months old.

In 1853, when thirteen years of age, Mr. Heywood came to Troy and here attended school almost up to the time of entering the military service of his country, in 1861. He enlisted in Company H, Eleventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, for three months, being the first youth to enlist from Troy. He passed safely through his first enlistment and returned home only to re-enlist in Company B, Ninety-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in which he served until the close of the war. He was attached to the Army of the Cumberland and he participated in the following engagements: Tate's Ford, Ky.; Perryville, Ky.; Stone River and Tullahoma, Tenn.; Dug Gap, Chickamauga, Ga.; Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge, Tenn.; Ringold, Dalton, Resaca, Dallas, Kenesaw Mountain and Marietta, Ga.; Chattahooche River; Peach Tree Creek; Atlanta; Siege of Atlanta; Jonesboro; Siege of Savannah; Bentonville; the Raleigh campaign; Johnson's surrender and then followed the Grand Review at Washington City.

Mr. Heywood went into the service with the rank of sergeant and was promoted to be second lieutenant, first lieutenant and acting adjutant for one year, and in January, 1865, was commissioned captain. After he had reached home he was still further honored by being brevetted major. During his long, arduous and dangerous service he was never seriously injured, although his place was many times where the battle raged thickest.

For about one year following his return from the army, Major Heywood engaged in a grocery business and then retired to his farm, on which he lived for the next twelve years. Upon his return to Troy he conducted an agricultural implement business for six years and was then elected sheriff of Miami County and was reelected to a second term. He retains business interests but does not devote much personal attention to them. He is a director of the Troy National Bank. On October 17, 1865, Mr. Heywood was married to Miss Adelaide Harker, who was born and reared at Troy. They are members of the First Presbyterian Church, Mr. Heywood being one of the trustees. He is identified with the Grand Army of the Republic.

HON. THEODORE SULLIVAN, son of Samuel and Maria (Crook) Sullivan, was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, in March, 1843. His grandfather, James Sullivan, emigrated from the South at an early day and settled in Clark County, this state, where the father of our subject was born. Samuel and Maria Sullivan were blessed with eleven children, of whom Theodore was the third. He attended the common schools of Montgomery County until sixteen years of age, after which he entered Linden Hill Academy, and later Antioch College, from which institution, however, he did not graduate.

Deciding to adopt the law as a profession, he studied for the bar at Dayton, in 1864, where he practiced for a long time. In 1867 he moved to Miami County and took up his residence in Troy in 1871, in which year he was nominated and elected county treasurer on the Republican ticket. From 1876 to 1891 he practiced law continuously and exclusively at Troy, where he was connected with some of the most important cases that came before the bar during this period. In 1891 he was elected judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Miami County, which position he ably

HON. THEODORE SULLIVAN

filled until his promotion to the Circuit Bench, which event took place in 1899. Judge Sullivan is still occupying the position of judge of the Circuit Court, Second Circuit of the State of Ohio. Such in brief is the story of the life of the subject of this sketch.

Judge Sullivan in all the legal phases of his life has won the encomiums of all. Bred to the law in early life, by careful preparation for its sterner duties, he has merited the several important positions which he has reached. A careful student, a good analytical lawyer and an impartial judge, he has served the people to the best of his ability. His experience at the bar and on the bench has given him a wide range of acquaintance, and his genial and courteous manners have surrounded him with a host of warm friends. He is accessible at all times, and when not engaged in the onerous duties of his position he turns to the best literature for recreation, finding it sometimes an incentive to the more laborious work of the judge. Possessed of a keen legal mind which enables him to grasp the intricacies of the causes which beset judges of our higher courts, he is eminently fitted for the place which he holds today.

The laity know little of the real work of those who are called upon to fill the bench of Ohio. These men are too often underrated, and only those who meet them in a legel capacity are fitted to estimate their true worth. Judge Sullivan has reached that period of life when the mind of the trained lawyer is at its best, when it is superiorly fitted to judge between man and man without fear or favor. The home of Judge Theodore Sullivan is always open to his friends. He knows no distinctions of humanity. Rising from the ranks of his own exertions and the endorsements of the people, he is honored wherever he is known. In politics, as has been said, he is a Republican and has often been called into the councils of his party. But he prefers above all things the profession which he has followed so long. Judge and Mrs. Sullivan have one son, Walter, who resides in New York City.

WILLIAM H. SOWERS, a highly esteemed citizen of Covington, Ohio, where he has been living a retired life for the past few years, is a veteran of the great Civil War, and was born January 9, 1842, in Covington, Miami County, Ohio, a son of John and Mary (Thompson) Sowers.

John Sowers was born in Berks County, Penna., where he was reared, and as a young man came to Covington, Ohio, where he was married to Mary Thompson, who was born in Newberry Township, the daughter of John Thompson. Sylvester Thompson, the grandfather of Mrs. Sowers, came from North Carolina in 1808, and for many years ran a still house on the home farm in Ohio. His son John, who was born in 1798, in North Carolina, accompanied the family to Ohio, and grew up on the farm in Newberry Township, south of Covington, which adjoined that of the Sowers. John Thompson married Katharine Rench, who was born in Pennsylvania, and they became the parents of twelve children, of whom Mrs. Sowers was the eldest; three died in infancy, and but two are now living—Mrs. Catherine Falkner and Mrs. Lavina Marlin of Covington. John Sowers died in 1898, and his widow survived him until 1902, at which time she was the oldest native-born woman in Miami County.

William H. Sowers was reared in Covington, where on April 19, 1861, he enlisted for three months' service in the Eleventh Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. On October 11th of the same year he became a member of the Sixty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and with that regiment he served until being mustered out of the service October 12, 1864, at Columbus, Ohio, he being stationed for nearly all of that period at Louisville, Ky. After his service, Mr. Sowers returned to Covington, but later went to Bradford, where for some time he was engaged in the mill and grain business, also operating a general store with his father and brothers, the warehouse and store being in one building. In addition to this, Mr. Sowers was agent for the Pennsylvania Railroad at that time. In 1883 he removed with his family to Chicago, where for seven years he was in the employ of the Adams Express Company, and he then took charge of the parcel room and bureau of information at the Union Depot, Chicago, continuing in that capacity until 1905. At this time Mr. Sowers returned to Covington, where he has since lived a retired life. Mr. Sowers has not been in the best of health for the past few years, due, no doubt, to his army service, and he spends his winters at Hot Springs, Ark.

In 1862, while at Louisville, Mr. Sowers was united in marriage with Luella Dunning, who is a daughter of James Barry and Sarah (Porter) Dunning, the former a native of Virginia and one of the early grocers of Covington, and the latter a native of Kentucky. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Sowers, namely: Edward, who died at the age of thirteen months; and Nettie, who married Winfield Freeman, and died after a married life of one year.

W. S. EBY, secretary of the Piqua Granite & Marble Company, doing business at No. 521 West Wood Street, Piqua, was born at Piqua, Ohio, in 1858, and is a son of the venerable William Eby.

William Eby was born at Hagerstown, Maryland, in 1825. He learned the carpenter trade and after coming to Piqua, in 1852, did a large amount of work in his line in this city, much of which endures. He has reached the age of eighty-four years and still resides here, one of the oldest and most esteemed citizens.

W. S. Eby grew to manhood in his native place and obtained his education in her schools. For about three years in his early business life he was interested in broom making and then went into the marble and granite business with J. F. Hummel, with whom he continued for nine years. Following this, Mr. Eby carried on a stone contracting business for ten years, after which he formed a partnership with J. A. Flatz, under the style of Flatz & Eby. This partnership existed for six years, when Mr. Flatz was succeeded by Mr. Hauk, and the style became Eby & Hauk, which continued for four years, when the present organization was effected. The Piqua Granite & Marble Company was formed, with a capital stock of $25,000, and the success of the concern is indicated by the almost immediate intention of advancing the capital stock to $35,000, and the erection of a plant, which in construction and equipment, will be one of the most complete in the State. The new plant is to be located on the corner of College and Water Streets, one of the best sites for the purpose that could be secured. The officers of the company are all men of substance and reliability: C. N. Adlard, president; P. Hauk, manager and treasurer; and W. S. Eby, secretary. The board of directors is made up of the following capitalists: C. N. Adlard, J. H. Clark, Paul Hauk, J. A. Flatz and W. S. Eby. The products manufactured by this concern include everything from the marble plaything to the most expensive mausoleum. They give constant employment to twelve men and this force will be greatly increased when their new quarters are completed. Mr. Eby has additional business interests, one of these being the Piqua Furniture Company.

In 1881 Mr. Eby was married to Miss Rose C. Duncan, a daughter of George Duncan, of Piqua, and they have four children: Grace D., who is the wife of Paul B. Flack, who is in the coal business in this city; and Edna, Florence and Carroll. Mr. Eby is a Mason and an Odd Fellow, belonging to the higher branches in both organizations.

JOHN H. RACER, dealer in real estate and breeder of fancy poultry, at Troy, formerly was very prominently identified with the construction of the leading interurban railroad lines in this section of the State. He was born in 1858, near Little Washington, in Rappahannock County, Virginia, and when sixteen years of age accompanied his parents to Greene County, Ohio, where he lived until grown to manhood.

After completing his education, Mr. Racer entered into newspaper work, becoming editor of the Bellbrook *Moon*, of Bellbrook, Ohio, where he resided for eleven years, identifying himself with the town's various interests, including the building of the Magnetic Hotel. Later he became interested in interurban traction and was the first secretary of the Dayton & Xenia and the Dayton & Spring Valley railroads. There was much opposition to the building of these lines and in all the complications which arose during their construction, Mr. Racer was prominent, the final success of the enterprise being largely due to his tact, judgment and executive ability. He then removed to Dayton and was associated there with Winters & Clegg, in the construction of the Dayton & Troy Railroad, having charge of the securing of the private rights and the franchises through the incorporated towns. He was identified with this road for three years, going then to the Cincinnati & Loveland Railroad in the same capacity. His health becoming impaired, he retired from railroad activity one year later and settled at Troy. Here he embarked in the business of raising thoroughbred poultry, and his yards contain many exceedingly valuable specimens. He breeds the White Plymouth Rock, the single comb White Leghorns, the White Wyandottes, the Barred Rock, the Silver Spangled Hamburgs and others, with the English Ringneck and Golden pheasants. One specimen of the latter is of such beauty and value that Mr. Racer has refused $100 for it. His fowls have frequently been on exhibition and he has the world record of 96 3-4 White Leghorns and 95 1-2 White Plymouth Rocks. During the past year Mr. Racer has done a large business in handling Canadian land, in addition to his other activities. He owns 160 acres of land adjoining New Dayton, Alberta Province, Canada.

In 1901 Mr. Racer was married to Miss Mary E. Enyeart, who was born and reared at Troy. She is a daughter of John L. and Lydia (Martendale) Enyeart, natives of Bedford County, Pa., and Montgomery County, Ohio, respectively. Mr. Racer's fraternal interests include membership in the Knights of Pythias and the Odd Fellows.

ENYEARTS—The latter part of the Sixteenth Century, two brothers, younger sons of the Prince of Holland, of noble birth and great wealth, emigrated to America. The elder went to Pennsylvania and settled, the younger to New Jersey. About the year 1816, a descendant of the elder came west to Ohio and settled in Butler County. A few years later several families of Enyearts settled in Ohio, Warren, Butler, Montgomery and Miami Counties and some going to Indiana and Illinois.

The Enyearts are lineal descendants of the Black Prince, famous in English History, and of Louis XIV. of France, who, although perhaps very wicked and proud, well deserved the title of ''Louis Le Grand'' as he was called by the French people. With two such ancestors the Enyearts have every reason to keep a family record. William Enyeart, one of the descendants, married Jane Vorres. William was the father of twenty-one children; his descendants are James, Joseph, Silas, Benjamin, Thomas, Levi, Abraham, (sisters) Jane, Elenor, Margaret, (half brothers and sister), David, John, William and Jacob, Rebecca. A number did not come west; the writer cannot give the names of those. James Enyeart, son of William and Jane Enyeart, was born in Pennsylvania, 1787, and was married to Mary Kessler in the year 1809. He emigrated to Ohio about the year 1819, settled on a farm east of Troy, where he lived until his death, in 1831, and was buried in Knoop's graveyard, east of Troy, on Springfield Pike.

John L. Enyeart, son of James Enyeart, and familiarly known as ''Long John,'' to distinguish him from a cousin of same name, was born in Bedford County, Pennsylvania, February 2nd, 1812, and came to Ohio with his parents in a road wagon, as there were no railroads then. He married Lydia Martindale, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Campbell Martindale, in the year 1840, and moved on the farm, formerly owned by his brother, one mile east of Troy, on the Springfield Pike. He lived there until the year 1853, when he bought 160 acres one mile south of Troy on Dayton Pike. In March, 1864, he bought another farm, which is now in the corporation of Troy, and there lived until his death, January 25th, 1867; he was buried in the beautiful Riverside Cemetery. To this union ten children were born. Sarah married David Coppock, who moved to Superior, Nebraska, and both died there. Hester R. married H. H. Miller and they are both living in Mound City, Missouri. Thomas J. married Elizabeth E. Pearson; both live in Troy. Elizabeth A. married L. A. McDonald and lives in Troy. William died just after returning from the war. Martha married P. Feidt and lives in Sidney, Ohio. Rebecca S. married Daniel Elliott and died in May, 1883. Samuel died at the age of sixteen. John M. married Margaret O'Conner and both died a few years after their marriage.

Mary E. married J. H. Racer and they live in Troy.

J. A. BRUBAKER & SON, buyers and shippers of grain and dealers in mill feed, coal, flour, drain tile and fertilizers, are representatives of the leading business interests at Rex, Miami County, and their trade relations extend over a wide territory. James A. Brubaker, the senior member of the firm, was born in Virginia, December 11, 1848, a son of Abraham Brubaker, a part of whose life was spent in Virginia.

When about twenty-five years of age, Mr. Brubaker spent some time in Illinois, working as truck gardener, farmer and thresher. He came to Ohio, living in Clark County until 1876, when he married and moved to Montgomery County and resided near the town of Dayton, Ohio, for five years. From there Mr. Brubaker came to Miami County and rented a farm of 120 acres, situated one mile northwest of Brandt, in Bethel Township, on which he lived for six years, when he moved to a farm of thirty acres on Honey Creek, Bethel Township, which he cultivated for sixteen years. He then sold that property and moved to Brown Station or Rex, as the postoffice was named, and located at his present place of business in 1904. He worked occasionally as a painter and began in his present large business by buying and selling grain and hay, but later bought out O. L. Sullivan's elevator interests. Mr. Brubaker then admitted his son to partnership and the firm has developed into a very large concern. They have added modern machinery to the original plant and make grinding feed and flour a specialty, in addition to their other industries. Mr. Brubaker is a stockholder in the First National Bank of New Carlisle. He resides on a small place of ten acres in Bethel Township, and also owns a farm of 140 acres in Pratt County, Kansas.

James A. Brubaker married Miss Elizabeth C. Arnold, a daughter of Henry H. and Magdalene (Crist) Arnold, and they have the following children: Alfred A., who married Viola Rymon, and has two children, Arthur R. and Walter; Adria Alice, now deceased, who was the wife of Charles Frantz and had one son, Roy (also deceased) and two daughters, Arthena and Virgie; Henry J., who is the junior partner in the firm of J. A. Brubaker & Son; Etta M., who resides at home; and Carson A., who is a member of the class of 1912 in the Bethel High School. Mr. Brubaker is a member of the German Reformed Baptist Church. In his political opinions he is a Democrat, but in no sense is a politician.

Henry J. Brubaker was born in Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio, March 6, 1886, and his education was secured first in Glenwood District No. 9, in Bethel Township, later in the Bethel High School, and afterwards in the Dayton Commercial College, at Dayton, Ohio, where he received his business training. Upon his return home he entered into partnership with his father and is a very enterprising member of this business house. He is also identified with the Democratic party, but only as a worthy and intelligent citizen.

ABSALOM ROUTSON, who was for many years one of the leading business men of Covington, passed out of this life November 9, 1908, and was actively engaged in business when stricken with the brief illness which resulted in his death at the age of eighty-three. He was born near Fredericksburg, Maryland, December, 1825, and when quite young his parents located for a time in Pennsylvania, later moving to Shelby County, Ohio. In 1843 he came to Covington in order to learn the tailoring business from an elder brother, who died before he had finished learning the trade. He shortly afterward determined to engage in business for himself, although entirely without capital. He borrowed $2.50 and with a similar amount of his own, went to Cincinnati, where, through letters of recommendation he purchased stock for the store which he opened in Covington. He conducted it successfully for many years, when he merged the store into the largest dry goods store in Covington. Mr. Routson was one of the substantial men of Covington, always taking a deep interest in the promotion of the city's welfare, and enjoyed the confidence and good will of his fellow citizens. He was a member and an elder of the Presbyterian Church of Covington.

Mr. Routson was first united in marriage May 7, 1846, with Martha W. Clark, their union resulting in the birth of seven children, three of whom are living—Mrs. James T. Bartmess, of Covington; Henry Ward Beecher Routson, of Covington; and Mrs. Dr. Charles Martin, of Findlay, Ohio. Mr. Routson formed a second marital union March 31, 1869, with Sarah Margaret Birely, who died January 21, 1906. On March 26, 1907, Mr. Routson was joined in marriage with Ermina Purdy, a native of Covington and a daughter of James L. and Prudence (Billingsley) Purdy.

James L. Purdy was born in Perry County, Pennsylvania in 1816 and in 1825 with his father, Thomas Purdy, moved to Miami County, Ohio, where they settled in Washington Township. His education was obtained in the local schools and for some years after completing his education he taught in the Washington Township schools. After his marriage Mr. Purdy came to Covington, where he engaged in manufacturing chairs, and also conducted an undertaking establishment, being for many years the only undertaker in the city. Mr. Purdy was a man of prominence and education, and during his later years assisted in compiling a history of Miami County, the history being in the possession of his daughter, Mrs. Routson. Mr. and Mrs. Purdy were the parents of two children, Ermina, widow of the subject of this record; and Thomas, who was killed in a railroad accident February 17, 1907. He married Kate Darner and to them were born four children—Mrs. Grace Brandon, of Piqua; Lucy, who resides in Covington, and is a stenographer at Geo. Rundle's in Piqua; Ethel, engaged in the millinery business in Covington; and John, a bookkeeper residing in Dayton, Ohio.

HON. JAMES CLARE HUGHES, one of the most prominent members of the Miami County bar, now serving as mayor of the city of Piqua, was born in Portsmouth, Ohio, February 5, 1875, son of Rev. Thomas L. and Hortense (Clare) Hughes.

His grandparents on the paternal side were Hon. Thomas L. and Ann (Jones) Hughes, both natives of Wales, who were married in Cincinnati, Ohio. The grandfather came to this country when in his thirty-fifth year and for some years was engaged in mercantile business at Oak

Hill, Jackson County, Ohio. He was afterwards a prominent official and stockholder in the Jefferson Furnace Company, engaged in the manufacture of pig iron. He was a prominent factor in Jackson County politics and at one time was elected to the Ohio State Legislature on the Republican ticket. He became quite well-to-do, and was also a man of good education and literary ability. He died at the age of ninety years in March, 1896. His wife had preceded him to the grave many years before, dying in 1857 when in her thirty-eighth year. They were the parents of five children.

Rev. Thomas L. Hughes was born in Jackson County, Ohio, April 27, 1850. After attending the common schools, he entered, at the age of fourteen, the Ohio University, from which he was in due time graduated. Subsequently he took a postgraduate course at Princeton University. He then entered upon the study of law in the Cincinnati Law College and in 1874 he was admitted to the bar in Jackson County, (having previously declined the Republican nomination for the State Legislature). He practiced his profession in Jackson County for two years, during which time he served one term as city solicitor. He began his theological studies in 1876 and was licensed to preach in June, 1877. His first charge was at Eckmansville and he was subsequently pastor of Presbyterian churches at Pomeroy, Ohio and at Shelbyville, Indiana. In the fall of 1892 he became pastor of the Presbyterian church at Piqua, Ohio, where he remained until his death, which took place June 17, 1900. The degree of D. D. was bestowed upon him by Hanover College, and he was a man most highly esteemed for his scholarly attainments, his pulpit power and eloquence and his capability as a practical worker along religious and social lines of endeavor. By his wife, Hortense, who was a native of Jackson County, Ohio, he had six children, namely: James Clare, whose name heads this article; Catherine, wife of J. B. Wilkinson, of Piqua; Anna, Thomas L., Mary, and Emma.

James Clare Hughes, after laying the foundation of his education became a student at Washington and Jefferson College, at Washington, Penna., from which he was subsequently graduated. He was graduated from Indiana Law School, Indianapolis, in June, 1899, and he was admitted to the bar in June, 1900, beginning the practice of his profession in Piqua. In April of the following year he was elected city solicitor of Piqua, and he was again elected to the same office in 1903. He was first elected mayor of Piqua in 1905 and his re-election in 1907 is evidence that he gave the citizens an honest and capable administration, which may be said, indeed, of his entire incumbency of the office.

Mr. Hughes was married September 22, 1904, to Anna Blaushe Matthews, of Piqua, of which union there is one son, Thomas Lloyd Hughes, born May 10, 1906. Mr. Hughes is a Presbyterian in religious belief. As a lawyer he has made a good reputation for ability, and as a citizen and public official he is held in high esteem for his public spirit, his devotion to duty, and his possession in large measure of those magnetic personal qualities which, without any sacrifice of principle, are potent to win and retain friends. All who know him will watch his future career with interest.

E. W. LAPE, who fills the important offices of secretary and treasurer of one of Miami County's largest industries, The Favorite Stove and Range Company, of Piqua, is one of the city's representative business men. He was born at Cincinnati but in childhood his parents moved to Newport, Kentucky, where he received his early educational training. This was supplemented by attendance at Chickering Institute, at Cincinnati.

From school Mr. Lape entered the employ of Nicholas Patterson & Company, with which firm he remained three years, going then to W. C. Davis & Co., stove manufacturers, and continuing with them and their successors until they came to Piqua from Cincinnati and entered into business as The Favorite Stove and Range Company, and for some years he has been an important official of this enormous corporation.

On October 31, 1890, Mr. Lape was married to Miss Florence Jeannette Smith, of Piqua, and they have four children—E. Walter, Martha Taylor, Robert Frame and Catherine Jeannette. Mr. Lape is a member of the Church of Christ and belongs to the official board. He is a Mason, having taken the Knight Templar degree; has served Newport Lodge as Master and was Eminent Commander of Newport Commandery. He is a member also of the Piqua Club.

ELIAS BARNHART, one of Concord Township's most substantial citizens, who resides on his splendid farm of 240 acres, which is situated on the Swailes Turnpike Road, about two and one-half miles southwest of Troy, Ohio, was born March 18, 1845, in Montgomery County, Ohio, and is a son of Tobias and Sarah (Basore) Barnhart.

The parents of Mr. Barnhart were born, reared and married in Pennsylvania. When they decided to move to Ohio, hoping to secure better farming land than they then owned, they procured great wagons and in them the family and household possessions were brought over the mountains and across the State line and into Montgomery County. Tobias Barnhart bought a small farm near Dayton and while he resided on it took his produce to the market in that city, over roads which no township supervisor or road overseer would countenance at the present day. Finding better farm conditions in Miami County, in 1849, he removed his family to Concord Township and bought 160 acres of the present farm, from a Mr. Dilts, and on this place he passed the remainder of his life. He erected the present comfortable residence after the railway line was built. His death occurred when he was aged eighty-six years, he having survived his wife for some time. They had eight children, namely: William, Tobias and Benjamin, all three now deceased; David, who lives in Miami County; Elias; Susan, who is the widow of James Westfall; Catherine, who is the wife of Jacob Harlacher, of Miami County; and Sarah, who resides at Pleasant Hill.

Elias Barnhart was about four years old when his parents came to the present farm and his memory goes back to the long journey in the covered wagon and his ambition to ride on the top of it. With his twin sister, Sarah, he attended the district schools and they were the youngest pupils there. He lived at home until after his marriage and then bought eighty acres adjoining his father's farm of 160, on the west, and purchased the homestead when his father died. He put up all the excellent buildings on the eighty-acre tract and keeps his whole big farm in fine condition. He carries on a general line of agriculture and gives some attention to growing tobacco.

In January, 1871, Mr. Barnhart was married to Miss Rebecca Long, a daughter of Israel Long, who brought his family from Pennsylvania to Miami County. Mr. and Mrs. Barnhart have two children: Ida May, who is the wife of Charles Chase, a well known artist residing at West Milton; and Charles, who operates the eighty-acre farm. Mr. and Mrs. Barnhart are members of the Christian Church and his attendance has been so regular that he secured a medal, in the shape of a gold button, as proof of it. He has seldom cared to leave Miami County and while he enjoyed a trip to Florida in 1907, he was glad to return home. He is a Republican in his political sentiments but has never cared to seek public office.

ROBERT M. WILSON, president of the Concord Township School Board and the owner of a farm of forty-five acres of well improved land, which lies three miles southwest of Troy, on the Swailes Turnpike Road, is one of the representative citizens of this section and a member of one of the old and leading families. He was born in the old log house on the homestead in Concord Township, Miami County, Ohio, March 6, 1849, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Debra) Wilson.

John Wilson was born in Maryland and in boyhood accompanied his father, Robert Wilson, to Miami County. Grandfather Wilson settled in the woods in Concord Township, not far from the farm of Robert M. Wilson, and there built a log cabin, which later gave way to a handsome brick house. Robert Wilson subsequently moved to a farm in Shelby County, on which he lived until his active years were over, when he retired to Sidney and died there when aged eighty-five years.

John Wilson, father of Robert M., was one of the older members of a large family. He assisted his father to clear the farm and later cleared one for himself in this township and resided on it until the close of his life, following farming and trucking, and for a number of years he had customers in Troy who depended upon him for their earliest and best vegetables. His death occurred May 26, 1907, when he was aged eighty-seven years. He married Elizabeth Debra, who was born in Union Township, Miami County, and survived her husband for only three weeks. They had the following children: Robert M., Henry, Ella, William, Charles, Mary, Rijah, Arthur and Walter, twins; and John. Of these Arthur and John are deceased.

Robert M. Wilson had but meager educational opportunities during his boyhood, but for a season, while living with his grandfather, he went to school in one of the old log structures where slabs served as benches and greased paper took the place of glass in the window apertures. His father needed his help on the farm, as he was the eldest son, and he worked for him until he was twenty-four years old. In 1874 he purchased the farm from his father and later put up all the present excellent buildings. He carries on general farming to some degree but makes trucking a specialty and for several years ran a wagon to Troy. Formerly he had a nursery of fruit trees and conducted the business as a representative of the Farmers' Nursery Company.

On September 17, 1875, Mr. Wilson was married to Miss Allie B. Brown, who was born and reared in Concord Township and is a daughter of George Brown. They have three children, namely: Clarence W., Viona May, and Anna. Clarence W., who lives at Tippecanoe City, was married (first) to Mary Weikert, who at death left one son, Forest H., who lives with Mr. Wilson. He married, second, Ethel Dye and they have two children—Ralph M. and Mabel F. Viona May, who married Howard Robins, of Montgomery County, Ohio, has two daughters, Martha and Mary Anna is the wife of William Hartman, of Concord Township.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson are members of the Christian Church. In politics he is a stanch Republican. For a number of years he has been a member of the School Board and is serving in his second term as president of this important body. Fraternally he is connected with the Odd Fellows and the Elks, both lodges being at Troy.

JOHN G. WETZEL, one of Covington's leading business men, whose interests have been centered in this city for the past nine years, was born in Union Township, Miami County, Ohio, on a farm not far distant from the village of Laura, March 8, 1872. His parents were Gottleib and Rose (Trost) Wetzel. The parents of Mr. Wetzel moved from Miami County to a farm in Franklin Township, Darke County, Ohio, in 1874, and there the father died in 1888. The mother still survives and lives on the Franklin Township farm.

J. G. Wetzel remained at home until he was twenty-one years of age, helping on the farm and securing his education in the public schools. His first outside work was in a butcher shop at Potsdam, where he was employed for one year and he then bought the business and conducted it for a year and a half, after which he sold and engaged in the wagon and horse business at the same place, continuing until 1900, when he came to Covington. In March, 1902, he suffered considerably from fire, his stables burning down, and, although he succeeded in getting out his own and a number of boarding horses, amounting to thirty-seven head, he lost buggies and all his stored hay and feed. Ever since coming to Covington, his livery stable has been his main interest, although in 1906 he entered into partnership with C. A. Ditmer, under the firm name of Wetzel & Ditmer, and carried on a carriage and buggy business for one year. Immediately following his fire loss in 1902, he transferred his horses to the Fosdick barn and on the morning following was ready for business again. In the fall of 1906 he purchased the McGowan barn and tore it down, in its place building a fine new barn, into which he moved March 4, 1907. Again misfortune fell upon him, fire destroying his stables for a second time, on May 27, 1908, in which conflagration he lost six head of horses, twenty-two buggies and all his feed and hay, meeting with a total loss of over $4,000. Mr. Wetzel, however, was not discouraged, on the other hand he immediately began the erection of still larger and more substantial stables and by August 10, 1908, he was established in his new quarters. He keeps thirteen head of horses, conducts a first-class livery and deals in both horses and buggies. Mr. Wetzel is a good citizen but is not particularly active in politics. He is a member of the order of Red Men.

December 29, 1892, Mr. Wetzel was married to Miss Lillian Martzall, of Gettysburg, Ohio, daughter of Martin and Catherine (Hice) Martzall, natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Wetzell became the parents of three children—Bryan, Lova Bell and Nora. Mrs. Wetzell died at Potsdam, Ohio, May 31, 1900.

E. E. EDGAR, treasurer of the Hobart Electric Manufacturing Company, one of Troy's leading manufacturing plants, has made this city his home for the past twenty years. He was born in Wilmington, Ohio, in 1870, and is a son of Rev. George M. Edgar, a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Edgar attended various public schools through Southern Ohio, where his father held charges, until he was eighteen years old. He then came to Troy and accepted a position as clerk with the Troy Buggy Works, going from there to the Troy Carriage Company, which he left in 1904, in order to accept his present office with The Hobart Electric Manufacturing Company. He is interested in other successful enterprises as a stockholder. In 1895 Mr. Edgar was married to Miss Elizabeth Campbell, who is a daughter of John M. Campbell, of Troy. They have one son, John Campbell Edgar. Mr. Edgar is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and he is associated with the Troy Club. He is a public-spirited citizen, taking a hearty interest in all that pertains to the progress of Troy.

SETH McCOLLOCH, attorney-at-law and secretary and treasurer of the Border City Building and Loan Association at Piqua, has been a resident of this city for the past twenty years. He was born at Ridgeway, Hardin County, Ohio, in 1857, but accompanied his parents to Logan County in his childhood.

Mr. McColloch takes a worthy pride in tracing his lineage from those sturdy pioneers who were the fore-runners of our splendid civilization. He is a direct descendant from Robert Zane, who came over with William Penn in 1682, and settled in Philadelphia, and whose great grandson, Isaac, was captured by the Indians, in Virginia, while on his way to school, at the age of nine years, and who was carried to Sandusky, Ohio, and adopted by the Chief of the Wyandottes and kept until he arrived at manhood; and later married the Chief's only daughter, Myeera, but whose mother was French. Isaac Zane became prominent as a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses, and exerted a powerful influence in bringing about peace between the whites and Indians.

Mr. McColloch's grandfather, William, married Nancy Zane, one of Isaac Zane's daughters, and history says that their first child was the first white child born in Muskingum County, Ohio. William and Nancy McColloch removed to Logan County, Ohio, and some of their children became her most distinguished citizens. Mr. McColloch's grandfather was a captain of scouts in the War of 1812, and was killed at Brownstown, now Detroit.

After completing the common school

course and the high school course at Rushsylvania, Logan County, Seth McColloch attended Delaware College and the Ohio Wesleyan University. For a number of years Mr. McColloch then taught school, after which he took up the study of law with the firm of Johnson & Johnson, at Piqua, and in 1895 was admitted to the bar. He immediately located in this city, at the same time taking an active interest in city politics and subsequently serving eight years as city clerk. In addition to attending to the demands of his practice, for the past seven years Mr. McColloch has been officially connected with the Border City Building and Loan Company.

In 1888 Mr. McColloch was married to Miss Effie G. Wright, of Rushsylvania, Ohio, and they have two children, Frank J. and Gerald W. Mr. and Mrs. McColloch are members of the Presbyterian Church, in which he has been an elder for sixteen years. He is fraternally associated with the Odd Fellows, the Royal Arcanum and the Maccabees.

NATHAN IDDINGS, familiarly known as Nate Iddings, president of the Bradford Bank, and a member of the grain firm of Arnold & Iddings, of Bradford, may well be called one of the fathers of the town, of which he has been one of the most prominent and stirring citizens for a period of forty years, or since 1869.

He was born on a farm near Pleasant Hill, in Newton Township, this county, March 17, 1841, son of David and Sarah (Hill) Iddings. His paternal grandfather was Joseph Iddings, whose father (great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch) came to Ohio from South Carolina, settling on a large farm situated on the boundary line between Montgomery and Miami Counties, a part of the farm lying in each county. This immigration occurred in 1796, at which time Joseph, grandfather of Nathan, was but a boy. He followed agriculture, as did also his son, Davis Iddings, who was born in the locality southeast of Pleasant Hill, and who, as has already been seen, married Sarah Hill.

The subject of this sketch was reared on the farm and in his boyhood attended the country schools. He afterwards taught school for four years in Miami County, in the vicinity of Troy and Pleasant Hill, and proved a successful teacher. Subsequently, in the furtherance of a laudable ambition, he took up the study of law, under the guidance of Alexander Long, and after thoroughly mastering the principles of the profession, was admitted to the bar at Cincinnati, in April, 1862. Instead of at once devoting himself to the practice of his profession, he took up the business of court reporting, which he followed thereafter for thirty-five years, serving as court reporter in ten different counties in the western part of the state. He reported in shorthand the first trial in Miami County, at which Judge Williams presided. During all this time he made his home in Bradford, taking an active part in the improvement and development of the town, and being generally recognized as one of its foremost citizens, as he was also one of its first comers. Indeed it is said that he had but one predecessor—John S. Moore—who opened a grocery store in the place when there was scarcely anything here but a primitive railway station, consisting of a box car set up at the side of the track, and a woodyard, where the locomotives were accustomed to replenish their stock of fuel.

NATE IDDINGS AND GRANDCHILD

Mr. Iddings was right on the heels of Mr. Moore, opening a general store almost before the latter had had time to get his trade well started. From that day until the present he has been an active factor in the business life of the town; and not only in its business life, but in practically every part or phase of its development as a progressive community. In the early days, he, with Frank Gulich, organized the voting precincts, and in spite of opposition from the towns of Covington and Gettysburg, had the village incorporated, and the special school district of Bradford, Miami and Darke Counties established. He was one of the members of the first board of education, and was, more than any other member, responsible for the establishment of the schoolhouse on its present site, which result was secured only after a long and determined fight on his part, the question being finally settled by an appeal to the popular vote. An interesting account of this contest may be found in the historical part of this volume—in the chapter devoted to Education.

For over thirty years Mr. Iddings has been attorney for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. In 1893 he organized the Bradford Bank, of which he has since been the efficient president. He is the owner of a large amount of valuable agricultural property, including some ten farms in Miami and Darke Counties, Ohio, aggregating about 1,500 acres. He also owns about 400 acres south of Pleasant Hill—the old home place—on which farm stands the largest barn in the state, 100x50 feet in dimensions and three stories in height, with mansard roof.

During his long and strenuous career, Mr. Iddings has been able to devote a few leisure moments to literary pursuits, and his interesting historical sketches, dealing with local subjects, and embodying for the most part his personal reminiscences of men and things, have appeared from time to time in the local journals to the interest and edification of our citizens. His own life is an integral part of the history of the town—and, it may be said, of the best part of it. He has never shirked his duty as a good citizen, but on more than one momentous occasion, has stood to his guns and maintained his positon in spite of the resolute efforts of those who were opposed to his ideas and who were in the majority; and this he has done, not from any unreasoning spirit of obstinacy, but from the fact that he had carefully studied the situation and knew that the plan he advocated would in the long run be for the best interests of the community. He has always been a man of action, quick to seize the salient point of a position and profit by his advantage while others were still engaged in reconnoitreing. As General Grant said, when he saw his opportunity at Fort Donelson, "The one who attacks first will win, and the enemy will have to be quick if he gets ahead of me," so Mr. Iddings in every important turning-point of his career, has acted on the same principle,—with what success those who know him will be ready to testify.

Mr. Iddings was married in 1868 to Nancy Patty, a daughter of Charles Patty. They have had one child, a son Frank, who married Lillian Miles, and has a daughter, Mildred.

In addition to the agricultural property owned by Mr. Iddings, which has been already referred to, he is also the owner of about sixty houses in Bradford, which he rents. He is a member of the Masonic Order, and is at once the guide, philosopher and friend of every interested enquirer into the history of the town in which he has for so many years made his home.

JACOB P. DOLL, whose valuable farm of sixty acres is situated in Concord Township, about two miles west of Troy, on the north side of the McKaig road, was born at Troy, Ohio, March 26, 1861, and is a son of Frederick and Barbara (Frank) Doll.

Conrad Doll was the paternal grandfather and when his son Frederick was about five years old, he brought his family from Germany to America, coming directly to Troy, Ohio, which was then a small village. His house stood on the present site of the big Haner warehouse, and from there he moved to the present farm of his son, Frederick, which is in Monroe Township, six miles southwest of Troy. He started to clear his land but met with an accident, a tree falling on him, which caused his death fifteen hours later, in March, 1861. He had two children to survive infancy, Frederick and Jacob, both natives of Germany and both living in Monroe Township, Miami County.

Frederick and Jacob Doll were both young when they were left fatherless but they had been thriftily taught to be industrious and each one did his share in clearing up the farm, attending school when they could spare the time. Frederick Doll married Barbara Frank, who had accompanied her parents from Germany when seventeen years of age. They lived at Troy until after the birth of their oldest son, Jacob P., and then went back to the farm, where they still reside. Their other children were: Samuel, now deceased; Catherine, wife of Newell Kerr; Mary, who married George Runnings and resides in Chicago; Elizabeth, wife of George Butts; George, Fred and Charles; and Dora, wife of Harry Fox.

Jacob P. Doll attended the district schools and lived at home until his marriage in 1884, when he went to housekeeping on the present Levi Switzer farm in Concord Township, which he rented for one and one-half years. He then rented the Henry Eyer farm in Lost Creek Township for four years, after which he bought his present farm from the Williams Brothers. A residence was in course of construction and Mr. Doll completed it and later, when the old barn burned down, he rebuilt it. He carries on a general line of farming, giving seven acres to tobacco, and is numbered with the prosperous farmers of the township.

On July 24, 1884, Mr. Doll was married to Miss Dora Kerr, a daughter of John C. Kerr, of Miami County, and to this marriage have been born six children, namely: John, who lives in Monroe Township, married Elizabeth Knife, and they have one son, Ralph; Nina; Clarence, who attends the Troy High School; Frank, who died when aged two years and eight months; and Mary and Stella. Since he was sixteen years of age, Mr. Doll has been a member of the German Lutheran Church. Mrs. Doll was reared in the Christian Church. In politics he is a Democrat but no office-seeker.

CHARLES A. BILLETT, a progressive and substantial citizen of Brandt, where he conducts a general mercantile business, is also associated with his sister, Miss Caroline E. Billett, in a general store at Miami City, of which he is half owner. Mr. Billett was born September 17, 1866, a native of Miami City, Ohio, and is a son of Rudolph and Sarah (Doggett) Billett.

Mr. Billett attended school at Alcony until he was fifteen years of age. He then went into the country and worked on a farm until he was twenty-two years old, after which he spent one year in the capacity of salesman for a carriage and buggy firm, selling fruit trees as a side line. Again he turned his attention to farming, buying eighty acres of land in Illinois, but four years later sold out, in the meanwhile acquiring a farm of fifty acres which is situated near Miami City. This he sold in 1898, and became an active partner with his sister in merchandizing, their combined enterprise resulting in the successful operating of two stores. Mr. Billett now is sole proprietor and owner of the Brandt store and he took up his residence at Brandt on March 12, 1900. He is an experienced merchant, having previously conducted a general store at Tippecanoe City and at Kessler Station, disposing of his interest at the latter point in 1899. He is a stockholder in the City Bank of Tippecanoe City and he owns a handsome residence and valuable store property at Brandt.

Mr. Billett married Miss Wilda Fern Neal, a daughter of William and Martha Neal, and they have three children, Marie, Homer D. and Floyd E. He is a member of the Lutheran Church, and like his late father, early identified himself with the Democratic party. He is a member of the Odd Fellow's lodge at Brandt.

REV. ANTHONY J. MENTINK, the esteemed pastor of St. Patrick Church, Troy, was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, December 11, 1877, being one of the six children of Anthony and Rosalie (Weitershagen) Mentink. His father, a native of Holland and a blacksmith, is now a resident of Cincinnati, where he still follows his trade.

The subject of this sketch received his earlier educational training in St. Gregory Seminary and completed his theological studies at St. Mary's of the West. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1902 by the Most Rev. William H. Elder, then bishop of Cincinnati, but now deceased. His first charge was as assistant priest at St. Anthony's Church, Cincinnati, where he remained until 1906, when, on March 30th of that year, he was transferred to his present parish as pastor.

This parish, which has an interesting history, dates back to 1858, which year saw the erection of the first Catholic church edifice in this locality. Previous to that date, however, it had been customary for the few Catholics who lived in and near Troy to gather at the home of John Danaher, now deceased, but who then resided on East Main Street. Here the first Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was offered in 1857, the congregation then numbering about twenty families. Divine service was held about once a month. Their increasing number soon made more commodious quarters a necessity, however, and accordingly when the Hon. J. E. Pearson, probate judge, offered them the use of his court room, which was located on the second floor of the building on West Main Street, east of the sheriff's present residence, they gratefully accepted the offer. But while making use of this room they looked forward to the day when they might have a House of Prayer which they might call their own and which they might enter at any moment to worship the one true God, and all worked with might and main to that end. As the result of their efforts the edifice to which reference has already been made, was erected on the southeast corner of Crawford and Water Streets and was dedicated by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Rosecrans, brother of General Rosecrans of Civil War fame. Twenty-five years later, in 1883, the church was enlarged to its present dimensions by the Rev. J. M. Feldmann and rededicated by the most Rev. Archbishop William Henry Elder.

The need of the growing parish now demanded a parochial school for the proper education of its youth, and under the able direction of the Rev. F. H. Bene, the congregation worked unitedly and persistently until the present school was erected, completely equipped and without the encumbrance of a debt. There are now sixty pupils in the school, which is in charge of two Sisters of the Precious Blood. The members of the Parish include about seventy families, including about 320 souls. In September, 1908, the congregation celebrated the Golden Jubilee of the church—its fiftieth anniversary, upon which occasion suitable services were performed, among them a solemn requiem High Mass for the deceased founders and benefactors of St. Patrick Church.—The parish at the present time is gathering funds for the erection of a new church in the near future.

EDWARD L. SWITZER, who very successfully operates his father's farm of 166 acres, which is situated in Concord Township, about four and one-half miles west of Troy, on the Troy and Pleasant Hill Turnpike Road, eighty-three acres lying on each side, was born December 11, 1873, on a farm in Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio. His parents, now living retired in great comfort at No. 213 May Street, Troy, are Levi and Sarah (Zeigler) Switzer.

Levi Switzer was born in 1837, in Pennsylvania, and was a boy of fourteen years when the long trip was made from there, in a great covered wagon, to a wilderness farm in Miami County. His father, William Switzer, settled about three miles northeast of Pleasant Hill, in Newton Township, and lived there for many subsequent years. William died at Pleasant Hill, to which he had retired, at the age of eighty-six years. He had accomplished the clearing of the farm, which he sold to his son, Jacob Switzer, who still owns it. He had four daughters and two sons, namely: Mary, who is the widow of Samuel Divens; Cassie, who is the widow of John Varner; Eliza and Sarah, both deceased; and Levi and Jacob.

Levi Switzer grew to manhood on the home farm and then married Sarah Zeigler, also a native of Pennsylvania. For some years after their marriage they lived on rented farms but later Levi Switzer bought the farm in Concord Township, from Nathan Frazier and resided on it until he retired from active life. His two sons are Jesse, who resides at Dayton, and Edward L.

Edward L. Switzer was twelve years old when his parents came to the farm under consideration and this place has always been his home. He obtained his education in the district schools, after which he worked for his father until his marriage, when he took charge. He carries on a general farming line, growing ten acres of tobacco, and feeds considerable stock.

On November 12, 1896, Mr. Switzer was married to Miss Bertha M. Wilson, a daughter of R. F. Wilson, a leading citizen of this section. Mr. Switzer and wife have many friends. They are members of the Christian Church. In politics, he is a Republican.

JOSEPH E. WILKINSON, a respected resident of Piqua, was born in Shelby County, Ohio, in 1844, son of Isaac A. and Ruth R. (Persinger) Wilkinson. His paternal grandfather came to America from near Antrim, in the north of Ireland. The subject of this sketch, who is the youngest of six brothers, was reared on a farm and remained with his parents until reaching the age of eighteen years. He then enlisted—on August 1, 1862—in the Ninety-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Company C, the regiment being organized at Lima. He served with it in the Kentucky, Tennessee and Georgia campaigns, and participated in the battles of Stone River and Chickamauga, one of his brothers being killed in the latter engagement.

On Sunday after this battle, while rendering assistance to a wounded comrade, he was captured by the rebels. After serving a long period of imprisonment he was finally released and returned home in October, 1865. He then attended school for a time and prepared himself for teaching, which profession he followed for about eight years. In 1875 he married Mary A. McKee, of Piqua, Ohio, a daughter of John and Catherine (Kerns) McKee, and soon afterwards located at Sidney, where he engaged in the lumber and planing-mill business. In 1881 he sold his interest in this industry to accept the appointment of postmaster of Sidney. Mr. Wilkinson's family consists of three children, Katherine L., John A., and Thomas R. Mrs. Wilkinson died January 4, 1909.

Having spoken of his long imprisonment during the war, it is fitting that we speak more fully on the subject, as illustrating some of the horrors and barbarities inflicted by a people of pretended civilization and culture upon the helpless prisoners of war. We will present a sketch of Mr. Wilkinson's life in southern prisons just as he narrated it to us.

"I was captured at Chickamauga, September 20, 1863, and conveyed to Belle Island, Virginia, where I was confined a few days. I was then taken to the city of Richmond and confined there until in December, at which time it became understood there would be no further exchange of prisoners, and about five thousand of us were transported to Danville, Virginia, and confined in tobacco-houses until the following April. During our confinement at this place smallpox broke out among the prisoners and proved very malignant in type. Unfortunately I was prostrated by the disease, but passed through it and acted as nurse for several weeks in what they called the "hospital." It did not deserve the name, for we had no medicine whatever, except red pepper pods, which we boiled and administered the tea to the sick, with apparently beneficial results, as it seemed to hasten the striking out of the disease. At this time there were twenty-three of my regiment with me, but, alas, nineteen of the number died in the prison pen, and only four ever saw the old flag again.

"In April, 1864, we were moved to Andersonville, Georgia, a distance of about seven hundred miles. We were transported over this distance in close box cars, there being from sixty to ninety of us in each car. The trip occupied seven days, and during that time none of us were permitted to leave the cars for any purpose whatever. When we reached Andersonville a number of dead men were found in each car. The sight of this new prison made many of the boys look down-hearted, as they contemplated the evidences of horrid cruelty, and thought of the governmental policy which refused exchange of prisoners. The question, Can we endure another eight months of this torture? was staring us in the face and demanding an answer we could not give. Arriving April 19, 1864, we found but few prisoners on our arrival, but each day brought in old prisoners from other places of confinement. Andersonville is situated about one hundred and sixty miles south of Atlanta, and is quite an obscure place, scarcely worthy of a village name. The prison pen was out in the open field, in which a number of trees and stumps were yet standing. We made good use of the time laying in a supply of wood, which we buried in the ground, and then slept over it to prevent it being stolen. All the time our number increased by the arrivals each week, until in August the number reached thirty-five thousand.

We remained until September, 1864, when the advance of Sherman after the capture of Atlanta alarmed the Rebel Government touching our safety, and it was determined to remove us. We were then transported to various points in the south, about one-third being sent to Florence, South Carolina, a similar prison, but one which proved even more destructive to life than Andersonville. With many others I was sent to Charleston, South Carolina, and put in such a position as to defy our government and prevent our army from further shelling the city. After being kept in this position about thirty days, we, too, were sent to Florence. My experience at Andersonville is too horrid to relate, and almost beyond belief. It is sufficient to say the rebel history makes this statement touching the fatality in the prison: April, 1864, one in every seventeen died; May, one in every twenty-six; June, one in every twenty-two; July, one in every eighteen; August, one in every eleven; September, one in three; October, one in two; and November, one in every three.

Think of it for a moment. To realize it fully put yourself in our position and see the increase of the death-rate, until after risking a thousand chances you find in November that the chances are even, and then think of that mortality which carried off thirteen thousand of our boys, actually starved to death in a land of civilization and plenty. To add one more horror to the picture, recall the infamous and diabolical order of John H. Winder, commander of prisons, who, hearing of the capture of Atlanta, and fearing for our safety, issued the following notice, which he posted prominently before the prisoners:

" 'Order No. 13.

" 'The officers on duty and in charge of the Battery of Florida Artillery at the time, will, upon receiving notice that the enemy has approached within seven miles of this post, open upon the stockade with grapeshot, without reference to the situation beyond these lines of defense.

" '(Signed.) JOHN H. WINDER,
" 'Brig.-Gen'l Com'g.'

"Think of a man issuing an order for forty guns to open a deadly fire upon thirty-five thousand unarmed, sick and helpless prisoners. It is an infamy so diabolical that history need not be asked for a parallel. It has been said that this man Winder 'died a peaceful death.' Perhaps so; in such case justice had not yet been meted out to him, and stern must that justice be which will ever pay him back in currency of his own coinage.

"At Florence the prisoners numbered about eleven thousand. Most of us had already been imprisoned about twelve months, and were wearing the same clothing in which we had been captured. That clothing had become so ragged and tattered that it scarcely covered our nakedness. Winter was approaching and no prospects of release further than the advance of Sherman. Mortality was thinning our ranks and our prison was a charnal house. Rations were reduced. For four months one pint of coarse corn meal was a daily ration, no salt or meat of any kind, and half the time no wood to cook it. All we could do was to mix our meal in water and drink it without boiling or otherwise cooking it. Such surroundings, such starvation and exposure told terribly against us, and the monthly mortality footed up forty per cent. In my eighteen months' prison life none was more severe than that at Florence.

"From Florence I arrived at Richmond, March 10, 1865, about one year after leaving it. We were sworn not to take up arms against the Confederate Government until duly exchanged. Six hundred of us were then taken down the James River and turned over to United States officers. Quite a number of these were old prisoners. For myself, it had been eighteen months since I had seen the old flag beneath which I had marched and fought. We were all sick and weak, but as we came in sight of the starry banner we yelled wildly and crazily at the top of our voices. The rebel authorities threatened to prevent our outbursts of cheers, but we were in sight of our men and could not be restrained. We told them we would yell and every one of us kept our word. The happiest moment of my life was when I stepped ashore. Stepping from the boat we were met by Northern ladies, who had provided sandwiches and coffee for our reception. One of them—she seemed an angel—handed me a cup of coffee, which I gladly accepted and drank, but my stomach revolted at an article it had not known for a year and a half. The lady saw and appreciated my difficulty, and, as if I were her own child, she uttered the words 'Poor fellow' so sympathetically that they almost overcame me. Those words were the first I had heard uttered by a woman from the time of my captivity, and they came like an angel's benediction.

"This is all long since passed, but while memory lasts I will not forget that the prisons of the South were conducted by heartless and murderous agents. It is needless to add anything to this brief recital. The words convey horror enough, but a more revolting chapter may be read between the lines. We know that the South, with all the dignity of insulted pride, has denied the charge of inhuman treatment of war prisoners; but the boys who suffered, as well as the thousands who died, attest the truth of the charge with an unanimity which cannot be challenged by a reasonable man."

WILBUR DeBOIS UPDIKE, who farms the DeWeese farm of eighty acres in Concord Township, Miami County, Ohio, was born on a farm in Warren County, Ohio, September 26, 1875. He is a son of Gideon G. and Louisa (Carson) Updike, and a grandson of Jacob Updike.

Jacob Updike was born and reared in New Jersey, and there cast his first presidential vote for William Henry Harrison in 1840. Upon his removal to Ohio, he located in Warren County, but the last days of his life were spent in Miami County, on a farm north of Troy. He and his wife both lived to advanced age. They were parents of two children: Gideon Gray; and Addie, who is the wife of Frank Vandeveer.

Gideon Gray Updike was born in New Jersey, on Christmas Day, 1848, and was reared to manhood in that state. As a young man he came west to Warren County, Ohio, and worked at carpentering a few years. One year after his arrival he returned to New Jersey and was married to Miss Louisa Carson, whom he brought back to his new home. They lived in Warren County a short time, then moved to Miami County and rented the Culberson farm north of Troy. After renting for a few years he purchased a farm in Elizabeth Township, near the Children's Home, where they have since lived. He has raised tobacco quite extensively and has done well in a business way. He and his wife became parents of two children: Wilbur D.; and Ada, deceased wife of Larkin Hole.

Wilbur D. Updike was about four years of age at the time of his parents' removal to Miami County, where he received his schooling and grew to maturity. As a boy he worked in a nursery and when seventeen years old began farming, continuing on the home place until his marriage. Since 1906 he has farmed the place of his wife's mother, located about three miles southwest of Troy, in Concord Township, and has made good business progress. He confines his activity to general farming.

In October, 1902, Mr. Updike was united in marriage with Miss Ora J. DeWeese, a daughter of Alexander and Sarah (Sayers) DeWeese. Mr. DeWeese died in 1903 and is survied by his widow. The subject of this record and his wife have one son, Robert F., who was born in September, 1904. Religiously, they are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a Republican in politics. He is a member of Troy Lodge No. 43, I. O. O. F.; and Concord Encampment No. 23, I. O. O. F.

PETER APPLE, who owns 106 acres of very fine land in Lost Creek Township, the old Isaac Stensman farm, was born March 12, 1849, on his father's farm near St. Paris, Champaign County, Ohio, and is a son of Adam and Mary Ann (Pence) Apple.

Adam Apple was born in Pennsylvania, of German parents. He came to Ohio in early manhood and started out in life with a sole capital of twenty-five cents, all he could call his own. Considering that he lived to be the owner of eleven farms of eighty acres each, his material success was very remarkable. He settled in the neighborhood of St. Paris, when he came to Ohio, and lived there at the time of his death, when aged seventy-five years. He was twice married and the children born to his first union were: Daniel, John, Adam J., Abraham, Godfrey, Lucy, Sarah, Nancy and David (killed in Civil War). Some are still living. His second marriage was to Mary Ann Pence, who died when aged sixty years. The children of this union were: James, who is deceased; Peter; Ella; Augusta, deceased, and two that died in infancy.

Peter Apple remained at home in Champaign County until his own marriage, working for his father on the farm and in boyhood attended the district schools when possible. His father was a strict and frugal man and expected a large amount of hard work from his sons. After marriage, Mr. Apple lived on his own farm of seventy-eight acres, which was situated in Johnson Township, Champaign County, until 1906, when he sold it to his brother Abraham and then bought his present property, which lies on the north side of the Peterson Turnpike Road, in Lost Creek Township. Mr. Apple found it unnecessary to do much improving, as substantial farm buildings were already on the place. He raises the usual grains that do well in this section and enough good stock for his own use.

In April, 1869, Mr. Apple was married to Miss Barbara Poorman, a daughter of Jacob Poorman, who came to Ohio from Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Apple have had the following children: Alfred, who lives near St. Paris, married Annie Hawes, and they have four children—Ella, Grace, David and Paul; Elizabeth (deceased), who married Pierce Maggert; Maggie, who died young; Jacob, who operates the home farm for his father, married Doska Sturm, and they have two children—Marie and Leon; and Mary, who married Charles Curtis, a farmer in Brown Township, and has three children—Goldie and Gladys (twins), and Helen. Mr. Apple and family are members of the Lutheran Church at St. Paris. In politics he is a Democrat.

JESSE BURKETT, one of Troy's prominent retired citizens, formerly county treasurer and for a number of years a public official of Miami County, is also a surviving officer of the great Civil War, having given a long period of his young manhood to the service of his country in her hour of need. He was born in 1835, in Jefferson, North Carolina, and was brought to Darke County, Ohio, when he was eleven years of age. In 1847 his parents removed to Fredericksburg, Miami County, and there Young Burkett went to school and worked in his father's blacksmith shop.

On August 16, 1862, he enlisted in the Federal Army, from Miami County, contracting for "three years or during the war," and on August 24th he was mustered into Company D, under Capt. R. P. Hutchins, and the Ninety-fourth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, under Col. Joseph W. Frizell. Four days later, this regiment, without uniforms or camp equipments, having never even been drilled, was ordered to Kentucky, which State, at that time, was being invaded by Gen. Kirby Smith. The regiment went first to Cincinnati, thence to Lexington, Kentucky, where Col. Frizell succeeded in getting three rounds of ammunition to the man, and, with the assistance of some citizens, passable quarters. Soon afterward the regiment was assigned to the First Brigade, First Division, Fourteenth Army Corps, Army of the Cumberland, and on August 31st, participated in the engagement at Tate's Ferry or Fort. In that first battle, Mr. Burkett was seriously wounded in the left hand, so much so that he was incapacitated for service for some time. On February 15, 1863, he was transferred to Company M, Fifth United States Cavalry, Gen. George H. Thomas commanding. This regiment was later assigned to Gen. Torbett's Division, Army of the Potomac, and participated in the following engagements: Beverly Ford, Virginia; Gettysburg, Pennsylvania; Brandy Station; Todd's Tavern; Trevelyan Station; Deep Bottom; Winchester; Dinwiddie Court House; Five Forks; and Appomattox Court House. On April 9, 1865, Mr. Burkett was again wounded, a gunshot shattering his left foot to such an extent that he had to submit to its amputation and at first suffered untold misery in a field hospital, later being transported to the Armory Square Hospital, at Washington, D. C. In addition to these sad misfortunes of war, Mr. Burkett also suffered imprisonment, being captured by the enemy, at Lexington, Kentucky, at the beginning of his service. Three days later he was paroled and within two months was exchanged. He received his final honorable discharge, at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, August 27, 1865, by reason of disability and the close of the war. His service included many heroic actions and his record is one that reflects credit on him as a brave man and a patriot. He is a member of Coleman Post, No. 159, G. A. R.

In 1874 Mr. Burkett came to Troy and for four years served in the office of deputy sheriff of Miami County, for seven years as deputy auditor of the county, for fourteen years as deputy treasurer, and then was elected county treasurer and served for two terms (four years) in that office. Since leaving the treasurer's office he has lived retired. He was a conscientious and faithful official and during the long period of public life, enjoyed the confidence of his fellow citizens at large and the hearty friendship of more intimate acquaintances.

On December 29, 1874, Mr. Burkett was married to Miss Flora P. Tenney, who died in 1878, leaving one daughter, Adda E., who is the wife of Dr. Marsh, of Gouverneur, New York. Mr. Burkett was married (second), January 8, 1885, to Anna Casley Moody, and they have three sons, J. Earl, Ralph C. and Burton B., all of whom are residents of Troy. In former years Mr. Burkett took quite an active interest in politics. He is one of Troy's best known citizens, to advance the welfare of which place he has given his best efforts ever since becoming a resident.

FORREST O. FLOWERS, one of Piqua's progressive and enterprising young business men, who stands very high in commercial circles as the president of the Miller-Flowers Company, clothiers and furnishers, at Piqua, was born in 1881, at Stafford, Ohio.

After his school attendance was finished, Mr. Flowers taught school very successfully for three years in Monroe County and then accepted an office position with the Buckeye Manufacturing Company, at Anderson, Indiana. He continued with the Buckeye people for one year and eight months, when the company was merged with the Pioneer Pole and Shaft Company, of Piqua. He then came to Piqua and was in their office from 1903 to February, 1908, when he bought Mr. Rogan's interest in the Miller-Rogan Company, and the present firm style was assumed, Mr. Flowers becoming president and J. D. Miller secretary and treasurer. This is the leading firm of clothiers and furnishers in Miami County.

On April 16, 1907, Mr. Flowers was married to Miss Essie Mae Miller, a daughter of William F. Miller, a leading business citizen of Troy. Mr. and Mrs. Flowers are members of the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church. He is active in the Y. M. C. A., is a member of the board of directors of the Piqua Business Men's Association and is identified with the Odd Fellows and the Cosmopolitan Club.

HENRY ORBISON EVANS, formerly county surveyor and engineer for Miami County, Ohio, resides on the old home farm in Staunton Township, about three hundred yards from the limits of the city of Troy. He is a man of wide experience in his professional work, which has taken him very thoroughly over the west and southwest and into Old Mexico. He was born in Troy, Ohio, March 20, 1846, and is a son of Albert G. and Nancy E. (Orbison) Evans.

Both the paternal and maternal great-grandfathers of the subject of this record were the first of their respective families to become established in this country and came from Wales. The paternal great grandfather and his wife reared the following children: Samuel; Hugh; Lavina, Sarah, Richard, Nancy, Amos, Daniel and Sophia. Samuel, grandfather of Henry O. Evans, was born March 31, 1771, and at an early date settled on a farm near Hillsboro, in Highland County, Ohio, where he lived until his death, August 10, 1853. In 1793 he was united in marriage with Polly Foreman, and their children were John, Nancy, Amos, Elizabeth, Foreman, Simpson, Tabitha, Lavina and Albert G.

Albert G. Evans was born at Hillsboro, Highland County, Ohio, March 5, 1811, and spent his boyhood days on the home farm. When a young man he moved to Defiance, Ohio, where he was a pioneer storekeeper and Indian trader. About the year 1841 he located at Troy, Ohio, which at the time was but a small village. With his brother John he engaged in the mercantile business, and later he formed a partnership with William Jay, with whom he continued until 1852 under the firm name of Evans and Jay. He then took into the business as partner, Franklin Elliott, and the firm of Evans and Elliott continued until Mr. Evans retired in 1857. He at that time located on the old John Harker farm in Staunton Township, which he had purchased in 1853 from Mr. Elliott. He died on this place November 29, 1889. He was married October 13, 1842, to Nancy E. Orbison, a daughter of Henry Orbison, a prominent citizen and well known lecturer of Miami County. Mr. and Mrs. Evans, for a wedding trip, went overland to New York City and returned by way of Cincinnati. The last leg of their journey home was made on a packet on the canal from Cincinnati to Troy, that waterway having but recently been completed. Two children were the issue of this union: Dr. John Rush Evans, formerly of Troy and now of Pittsburg; and Henry O. Evans, who was named in honor of his maternal grandfather.

Dr. John R. Evans graduated at the Troy High School in 1860 and Miami University in 1865, after which he received a thorough training in the science of medicine in the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, Michigan, and in the Belleview Hospital Medical College at New York City. He practiced many years at Troy, where he established an enviable prestige, and then moved to Pittsburg, where he has been successful in connection with a manufacturing firm. He was first united in marriage with Miss Julia Denice of Franklin, Ohio, by whom he has four children: Albert G., Edwin B., George D. and Henry O. His second marital union was with Miss Elizabeth Sharp of Williamsburg, Ohio.

Henry Orbison Evans spent his youthful days in Troy, where he attended the grade and high schools. He left high school in his junior year to enter Miami University, from which he was graduated in 1867 after a four years' course, with the honor of A. B., and in 1887 the degree of A. M. was conferred on him by that university. In 1868 he entered upon his profession as civil engineer, being engaged in railroad work for seven years, when he returned to Troy, and was elected to the office of county surveyor on the Republican ticket, and at the same time served as city and county engineer. He built many of the new pikes in the western part of the county. In 1891 he went to California and until 1894 followed engineering in connection with irrigation work, and then until 1908 worked in many parts of the West and Southwest in railroad construction work. Two years of this time he was in Old Mexico, and for nine years was in the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad as assistant and division engineer. He returned to Troy in 1908 and established his home on the old farm in Staunton Township, which he purchased from his father's estate in 1853. It is located at the intersection of the Troy-Urbana and Troy-Piqua pikes, on the interurban railway, and the residence is now being rebuilt and improved, and is being made one of the most modern and attractive homes in Miami County.

Mr. Evans was joined in marriage in 1875 with Miss Jennie Jefferson, a daughter of John Jefferson of Fayette County, Ohio. She died in 1885, leaving a daughter, Nannie J., who is now the wife of Philip A. Shaffer of New York City, a chemist by profession, who has charge of the Loomis Laboratory. They reside at Flushing, Long Island, and have a daughter, Jane, who was born in 1907. Mr. Evans formed a second union in 1889 with Miss Ella Hawthorne, who was for a number of years connected with the public schools of Troy as teacher. She is a daughter of George Hawthorne and was born at Morgantown, W. Va. Religiously, they are members of the Presbyterian church. Fraternally, he is a member of Franklin Lodge, No. 14, F. & A. M.; and Coleman Commandery, No. 17, K. T. He is a man of wide acquaintance in the county, and enjoys great popularity.

RICHARD LORENZO BROWN, M. D., is a prominent practitioner of Casstown, Miami County, Ohio, where he has been located since March, 1908. He has established a wide acquaintanceship and made many friends during his short residence here. Dr. Brown was born in Covington, Kentucky, March 28, 1867, and is a son of L. W. and Selina (Penny) Brown.

L. W. Brown was a young man when he learned the trade of a cornice maker and sheet metal worker. He became an expert workman in the latter capacity and was engaged with Post and Company at Cincinnati, Ohio, until their plant was destroyed by fire. He was then with the same company at Ludlow, Kentucky, until 1882, when he accompanied the general manager of that concern, John Kirby, to Dayton, Ohio. Here he continued in charge of the sheet metal department the remainder of his days. He died in 1895, at the age of fifty-eight years. He had the distinction of making the first metal casket for the National Cash Register Company at Dayton, and while with Post and Company drew the first plans accurately showing the position for the chimney for the headlight for locomotives. He was united in marriage with Selina Penny, who survived him two years. She came to the United States from England when fourteen years of age, going down the canal to Cincinnati, Ohio, where one of her brothers was one of the early tailors. She became an expert vest maker and operated the first sewing machine in that city. Four children were born of their union, namely: Nina, wife of John W. O'Brien; Richard Lorenzo; William A., of Dayton, Ohio; and Minnie, who died at the age of seven years.

Richard L. Brown spent his early boyhood in Cincinnati and Covington, and attended the public schools at the latter place and Ludlow, Kentucky. In 1885 he began the study of medicine under the preceptorship of Dr. Scherbenzuber of Dayton, and the following year matriculated at the Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, from which he received the degree of M. D. in 1889. He then embarked in practice at Dayton, where he continued until 1894, after which he was located at Jamestown, Greene County, Ohio, some years. In 1900 he returned to Dayton and remained until 1905, when he located at Springfield, Ohio. Shortly afterward he located at Thackery, and still later at St. Paris, Ohio, but did not remain long in either place. He took up his residence and professional work in Casstown in March, 1908, and has already become well established. He is a man of recognized professional skill and knowledge, and maintains an office on Main Street.

In November, 1903, Dr. Brown was united in marriage with Mrs. Shirley B. (Riggs) Altick, widow of Arthur Altick, and a daughter of Philip Riggs, who was a soldier in the Union Army, and after the close of the Civil War was a revenue officer. Her great-grandparents, the Drakes, were among the early settlers of Miami County. She has a son by her first marriage, Arthur Riggs Altick, who attends the Troy High School. Politically, Dr. Brown is a Republican, but has been a strong supporter of Bryan. He is a charter member of Gem City Lodge, No. 795, I. O. O. F., of Dayton; and formerly was affiliated with Montgomery and Greene County medical societies. Religiously, he and his estimable wife are members of the Lutheran church.

ANDREW STALEY, one of Bethel Township's most respected retired citizens, resides on the old Staley homestead, a tract of 160 acres, situated in the northwestern part of Section 12, Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio, on which he was born May 26, 1833. His parents were Elias and Hannah (Ritter) Staley.

Elias Staley was born in Maryland and when he came first to Ohio he settled as a millwright on Mad River, not far from Dayton, and also bought a farm of eighty acres, on which he built a mill and a distillery. He later sold this property, subsequently built and sold another distillery near Dayton, and in 1816 came to Bethel Township and bought the farm of 160 acres which is now owned by his son Andrew. He never engaged in farming the place although he made all the improvements, building the mill and distillery which are old landmarks of the county. He carried on distilling and milling for many years, his death occurring in 1866. In 1826 he married Hannah Ritter, who died in 1880, and both are interred in Saylor's Cemetery, in Bethel Township. There were seven children born to Elias Staley and wife: Sarah, Mary, Simeon, Andrew, John, Levi and Elias, the three survivors being Andrew, Simeon and Levi.

Andrew Staley attended the district schools in his home neighborhood during his boyhood and then gave his father assistance on the farm, in the distillery and in the flour and saw-mills. The father built three saw-mills on the place, the last one of which is still standing, although it is not in use any more, and the distillery and flour mill have not been operated since 1905. During his active years he was a very busy man and was able to turn his hand to almost anything, being a good carpenter and millwright as well as distiller, farmer and miller. On account of failing eyesight he was obliged to retire some years ago. He owns an additional farm of 105 acres, which lies in Elizabeth Township. Although his father erected all the farm buildings now standing, he has kept them in excellent repair. In his political views, Mr. Staley is a Democrat.

GEORGE F. PARSONS, senior member of the firm of Parsons & Clawson, druggists, doing business on East Main Street, Troy, was born in 1847, in Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Hon. E. and Caroline (Culbertson) Parsons. The late Judge Parsons was a native of Connecticut and he came to Miami County in 1839, becoming a prominent member of the bar, serving for ten years as common pleas judge and also being elected prosecuting attorney. After a long and useful life he died in 1869. He married Miss Caroline C. Culbertson, also now deceased, who was a daughter of Robert Culbertson, an old pioneer of this county. They reared the following children: Clara, who is the widow of Mr. Temple, and resides with her brother, George F.; Emma, who is the wife of J. G. Detmer, of Brooklyn, New York; George F.; Caroline, who is the widow of C. P. Thomas, and resides at Tryon, North Carolina; Robert H., who lives at Troy; Laura, who is the wife of M. G. Nixon; Estella K.; and Mary J., who is the wife of Charles C. West, of Mt. Clair, New Jersey.

George F. Parsons was reared and educated at Troy and during his entire business career he has been associated with his present line. The present firm of Parsons & Clawson was established in 1892 and does a large business. Mr. Parsons is a Knight Templar Mason and belongs to the Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias, the

DANIEL W. SMITH

Troy Club of Troy and to the Troy Business Men's Association.

DANIEL W. SMITH, cashier of the First National Bank of Troy, is one of the older residents of this city, with the interests of which he has been identified since he was twenty-seven years of age. He was born March 9th, 1835, in Montgomery County, Ohio, and is a son of Lester Smith, who was a pioneer in the business of manufacturing cut shingles here. After his years of school attendance had passed, Daniel W. Smith was taken into a general mercantile store as a clerk, where he continued until 1862, when he began work in what was then known as a branch of the State Bank of Ohio, which developed into the present First National Bank of Troy. He was advanced from the position of bookkeeper to be teller, then assistant cashier and since 1882 has been cashier of this institution. He has not only the esteem of the financiers with whom he is associated, but he has also the confidence of his fellow citizens to a marked degree, who, for forty years have elected him treasurer of Concord Township. In politics he is a Republican and has also served in the City Council of Troy and for several years was trustee of the City Water Works. For twelve years also he was a member of the Board of Education and has been for a number of years a member of the City Board of Sinking Fund, of which he is now president.

In 1864 Mr. Smith was married to Miss Angeline Janvier, who is a daughter of J. T. Janvier, who was a prominent member of the Miami County bar, public prosecutor of the county, and a man of wide influence and much talent. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have had six children, namely: Robert J., who is an attorney in practice at Mercedes, Texas; Margaret, who died at the age of eleven years; Walter S., who is superintendent for the E. W. Bliss Company, of Brooklyn, New York; Frederic H., a graduate of West Point, who is a lieutenant in the United States Army; Eugene, who is connected with the office force of the E. W. Bliss Company; and Adeline, who is the wife of Herbert Johnston, general manager and chief engineer of the Hobart Electric Manufacturing Company of Troy. Mr. Smith and family are members of the Presbyterian Church.

IRWIN A. HOLLOWAY, who has been a resident of Piqua, Ohio, almost continuously during the past nineteen years, is a railway postal clerk, running on the Pennsylvania line between Indianapolis and St. Louis.

Mr. Holloway was born in Covington, Kentucky, in 1880, and was nine years of age when his parents moved to Piqua, Ohio, where he was reared to maturity and attended the public schools. He completed a course in a commercial college, after which he was employed at office work for some fifteen months. He then was in the employ of an uncle at Syracuse, New York, for six months, at the end of which time he entered the railway postal service, at which he has since continued. He is a man of wide acquaintance in this city and makes his home at No. 507 South Main Street. In 1903 Mr. Holloway was married to Miss Cleo Collar of Ligonier, Indiana, and they have two children, Eleanor Alda and Martha Elizabeth. The family attend the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church of Piqua.

WILLIAM H. DETRICK, farmer and fruit grower, residing on his estate of eighty acres of valuable land in Bethel Township, situated four and one-half miles southeast of Tippecanoe City, is one of the leading men of this section of Miami County. He was born in Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio, December 15, 1848, and is a son of Benjamin and Catherine (Forney) Detrick.

The grandfather, Adam Detrick, was of German extraction but was born in West Virginia. He was a slave owner but set all his slaves free when coming to Ohio. On arriving here he located first in Wayne Township, Montgomery County, and finding it suited him, continued to reside there until his death, which was followed by that of his wife. He engaged in farming and also operated a saw-mill. He was one of the founders of the German Baptist Church in that section and both he and wife were buried in the cemetery adjoining the Hickory Grove Church.

Benjamin Detrick, father of William H., was thirteen years old when he accompanied his parents to Ohio from Virginia. He assisted on the farm and in the mill and also worked in the timber, cutting wood for twenty-five cents a cord, and working the mill at night in order to make a little money for himself. In that way he got his start in life, adding penny to penny and watching his capital grow until he had enough to invest, and when he died many years later he owned three farms, one of eighty acres, one of seventy-three acres and one of seventy-four acres, all in Bethel Township. He worked in a saw-mill for some years and sawed the first lumber that was used in the construction of the first house in Brandt, Miami County. He married Catherine Forney, a native of Pennsylvania, and they had eleven children: William H., Samuel, Jacob, David, and Benjamin, all living, and Harvey, Jefferson, Adam, Sarah, Eva Belle, and an infant, all deceased. After marriage, Benjamin Detrick and wife settled on a farm in Bethel Township which he bought of John Brown, and both he and wife died there. They were members of the Brethren Church of Bethel. The death of Benjamin Detrick occurred in 1890 and that of his widow five years later and they were buried in the Tippecanoe City Cemetery. He was a Republican in politics and was interested in having honest men elected to office. For a number of years he worked in the interests of good roads and served in the office of township supervisor.

William H. Detrick remembers the building of four school-houses on the same site, near his home in Bethel Township. The first one in which he was a pupil was a log cabin built in a grove of poplars, hence its name, and it was very primitive indeed. Light was admitted by the removal of a log from the side and the benches were rough slabs not very carefully smoothed. Later a more comfortable building was put up and learning was made more easy for Mr. Detrick and the other country boys and girls. He attended, off and on, until he was nineteen years of age, and then gave all his time to his father until he was twenty-one, after which he worked on the home farm by the day and his father permitted him to work land for himself in order to get a start. When his thoughts began to turn toward marriage he quietly went to a Mrs. Puterbaugh and rented her farm of 173 acres, and when he was married in the fall of 1871, he had a comfortable home to which to take his bride. Mr. and Mrs. Detrick continued to live on that farm as renters for the following thirteen years, when Mrs. Puterbaugh died and the property came into the market and Mr. Detrick immediately bought eighty acres of the northern side of the farm, which he considered the most desirable. He had to clear about thirty acres, and underdrained the whole property and put up all the fine buildings, these being of block cement. He makes fruit growing his specialty and produces the finest specimens of all kinds to be found in this part of the country. He has customers all over the state and ships quantities to different points.

On November 16, 1871, Mr. Detrick was married to Miss Edith Caroline Swindler, a daughter of John and Rebecca Swindler, and ten children have been born to them, as follows: Frank, who died when aged six years; Estella, who married Frank P. Fergus, and has two children—Mary M. and Alberta; Mary Anna, who married J. B. Heckman, and has two sons—William R. and Herbert C.; Bessie Savilla, who married Harley Sharitt, and has twin daughters—Edith Caroline and Edna Elizabeth; Araminta, residing at home, who is the telephone operator at Phoneton; Charles A., who is deceased; Walter, who married Matilda Prakel; Willis, who is deceased; and Ida May and Russell E., both of whom are at home.

Mr. Detrick and family usually attend religious services at the Brethren Church. In politics he is a stanch Republican and has frequently given most efficient service in township offices, having been a member of the School Board for a considerable time, supervisor for two terms and trustee for two terms. With his wife, Mr. Detrick belongs to Iras Court No. 20, Sons and Daughters of Ben Hur, at Tippecanoe City.

F. C. ROBERTS, junior member of the firm of Shilling & Roberts, leading undertakers and dealers in furniture and carpets at Troy, has been a resident of this city for twenty-seven years and is closely identified with its business and social interests. He was born at Christianburg, Champaign County, Ohio, in 1861, and spent his early life on a farm. Mr. Roberts was educated at Christianburg and later took a business course in a commercial college at Columbus. He then became a clerk in a dry goods house at Troy and continued in that capacity for thirteen years, at the end of that period buying the interest of a business man here and subsequently becoming junior partner in the firm of Shilling & Roberts. This firm does business in well equipped quarters on the southwest corner of the Public Square.

In 1885 Mr. Roberts was married to Miss Mary E. Shilling, who was a daughter of Jesse Shilling, Sr. (deceased), who was a pioneer in Miami County. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, he serving in an official capacity. He is identified with the Knights of Pythias, is a Knight Templar Mason, belongs to the Troy Business Men's Association, to the Island Outing Club and to the Ohio State Undertakers' Association. He has never been especially active in politics but nevertheless has always taken a good citizen's interest in public affairs.

JOSEPH EDWARD SIEGEL is a prosperous farmer and stock raiser of Concord Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is located about five miles northwest of Troy, just north of the Troy and Covington Pike. He was born on the old Harter farm in Troy, November 1, 1873, and is a son of William and Mary E. (Shaffer) Siegel. He comes of a German family, his father and his grandfather following agricultural pursuits in that country.

William Siegel came to the United States with his wife and three children, they being the only ones then living, and soon after his arrival located in Miami County, Ohio. He had but one dollar left at the time of his coming and for some years worked in a brick yard at Troy for fifty cents per day. He later rented a farm near Troy and from that place moved to the old Harter farm, which he rented and farmed successfully for thirteen years. While living there he purchased the 150-acre farm in Concord Township, now farmed by his son, George Siegel, and later moved upon the place which continued his home until his death in 1893, at the age of seventy years. His widow is passed the age of eighty-one and resides at the home of her daughter, Mary, in Troy. William and Mary Siegel were parents of the following children: Floyd of Van Wert, Ohio; Christina, wife of Frank Enick of Troy, Ohio; John of Washington; Caroline, deceased wife of Floyd Miller; Mary, wife of Alvin Corner; Charles of Washington; William of Arkansas; George, who lives on the home farm in Concord Township; and Joseph Edward.

Joseph Edward Siegel was reared on the farm and received a common school education. He has always followed farming and lived on the home place until one year after his marriage, when he rented the Herkes farm in Spring Creek Township. He remained there but one year, and then for nine years rented the William Mitchell farm in the same township. At the end of that time he located on the farm of his father-in-law, Casper Longendelpher, and has since farmed that place, which consists of 119½ acres. In April, 1908, he purchased forty and a half acres, adjoining, from Daniel Meyers. He follows general farming and is extensively engaged in raising pure blood Percheron horses. He has about twenty-one head at the present time, including: Gondalle, imported grey mare, weight 2,200 pounds; Grinchusen, imported grey mare, weight 1,900 pounds; Laura, grey mare, weight 1,700 pounds; Elpso Belle, grey mare, 1,650 pounds; and Helena, grey mare, weight 1,700 pounds. He recently erected a fine and modern stable for his horses.

January 24, 1895, Mr. Siegel was united in marriage with Miss Ida Longeldelpher, who was born on the farm on which she now lives, and is a daughter of Casper and Elizabeth (Favorite) Longendelpher. She comes of an old and well known family of the county.

FRANK W. PEARSON, a well known and prosperous farmer of Concord Township, Miami County, Ohio, farms the H. W. Allen farm of 305 acres, located about three and one-half miles northwest of Troy. He also owns and farms a tract of fifty acres south of Troy and in Concord Township. He was born on his father's place in that township, December 7, 1866, and is a son of George and Mary I. (Harbison) Pearson. The Pearson family in the early days were members of the Society of Friends and came to this country from

England during the time of William Penn.

Owing to his antipathy to slavery, Joseph Pearson, great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, moved from his home in the Newberry District of South Carolina to Miami County, Ohio. He arrived with his family in 1802, having made the trip in wagons drawn by four horses. It was prior to the admission of Ohio as a state, and the country was in a wild and undeveloped state. They located about four miles south of Troy, in Monroe Township, and there Joseph lived until his death at the age of sixty years.

Thomas H. Pearson, grandfather of Frank W., was fourteen years of age at the time the family moved from South Carolina to Ohio, and was twenty-one years of age at his father's death. He died at the old home in Miami County, where he passed sixty-two years of his life. He and his wife had three children, Ann, deceased; Lydia, deceased; and George.

George Pearson was born on the home farm in Concord Township, February 10, 1834, and has always lived on the place except for eight years spent in the West. In his younger days he spent two years in the photography business and for three years operated a saw-mill. Farming has been his chief occupation in life, and he also conducted a nursery with success. In 1856 he was joined in marriage with Miss Mary I. Harbison, by whom he had three children, Emma; Frank W.; and William.

Frank W. Pearson spent his boyhood on the home place and received a limited public school education. He began working on the farm at the early age of ten years and has since continued it with good results. He lived at home until his marrage in 1893, then farmed the place of his aunt, Ester Wingett, located west of Troy on the Milton Pike. After three years he farmed the Davis Green place near the Children's Home for three years, and in December, 1900, came to his present location. Just after marriage he purchased the tract of fifty acres he now owns south of Troy, from Henry Wilson and George Pearson, but has never lived upon it. It is well improved and under a high state of cultivation, eight acres of it being devoted to tobacco raising.

January 25, 1893, Mr. Pearson was joined in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Stewart, who was born in Warren County, Indiana, and is a daughter of Er. and Eliza Stewart. They have one son, George E.

FRANKLIN SHERMAN SWEARINGEN, township assessor of Lost Creek Township, Miami County, whose farm of eighty acres in Section 1, lies on both sides of the Casstown and Addison Turnpike Road, also on Springfield, Troy and Piqua Traction lines, was born June 20, 1864, in a log house that still stands on what was his father's farm near Winchester, Adams County, Ohio. His parents were John Llewellyn and Nancy Jane (Carson) Swearingen.

The Swearingen family originated in Holland and can be traced by its members as far back as 1656. The father of Franklin S. Swearingen was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, and in 1828 accompanied his father to Ohio. The family floated down the Ohio River in a flatboat until they reached Manchester, Adams County. The first selection of a farm proved to be an undesirable one and the grandfather, John Swearingen, removed to a second one and subsequently acquired more than 300 acres of fine land, all of which is still held in the Swearingen name. This land was covered with such a valuable growth of timber that he subsequently sold seven uncleared acres for $1,000 in cash, a remarkable transaction for that day. He died on that farm in 1887, having reached his eighty-fifth year. His wife probably was of Welsh descent as her name was Llewellyn, and she lived to be eighty-three years of age. They had twelve children, two of whom died in infancy, and the others were: Thomas, who lives in Iowa; John Llewellyn; Rebecca Ann, who is deceased; Andrew J., who lives in Adams County; Minerva, who lives in Iowa; Drusilla, who lives on the old farm; Matilda, who lives also in Adams County; Benjamin, who owns the old farm; William Allen, who lives in Illinois; and Nancy Ellen, who resides in Adams County.

John Llewellyn Swearingen was born October 2, 1828, and was five years old when he accompanied his parents to Ohio. In early manhood he was engaged in school teaching for several years, and afterwards became interested in stock dealing and horse buying, developing keen business perceptions along this line, and for a number of years he was engaged in buying livestock in Kentucky, bringing them from there to Adams County, where he fed them for the eastern markets. He was a prominent man in local political circles and three times was elected auditor of Adams County, his third election being with the largest majority of all and at a time when party lines were badly disorganized. He died October 28, 1875, a short time after the close of his term of public service. He married Nancy Jane Carson, who died February 1, 1903, when aged seventy-three years. They had seven children, namely: William Albert, residing in Illinois, who married Naomi Lafferty; Laura M., deceased, who was the wife of Joseph W. Shinn, also deceased; Franklin Sherman; Mary and an infant, both deceased; John E., residing at Addison, who married Lou Hughes; and Jessie, who died in early years.

Franklin Sherman Swearingen remained at home until his own marriage, in the meanwhile attending the district schools and later the High School at West Union. After his marriage, in 1887, he bought a farm on Brush Creek but before moving on it he followed farming in Illinois for a few years, but in 1899 he sold his Adams County place and came to Miami County and bought this improved farm from David Long. Mr. Swearingen carries on his agricultural operations according to modern approved methods and believes in making machinery take the place of muscle whenever it is possible. He does not raise registered stock but handles only well established breeds.

Mr. Swearingen was married August 30, 1887, to Miss Mary Edith Williams, a daughter of Henry and Laura (McClanahan) Williams, of Adams County, and they have had three children: Laura Helen, who died aged ten years; Ora Lulu and Mary Winona. Mr. Swearingen and family are members of the Methodist Church, although he was reared a Baptist. He has always taken an intelligent interest in public matters and enjoys the confidence of his fellow citizens. In the spring of 1907 he was appointed township assessor by the Board of Trustees and in the fall of the year he was elected to the office on the Democratic ticket. He is a member of

Mt. Olivet Lodge No. 326, F. & A. M., at Addison.

JOHN HARTSTEIN, who, in association with his son, owns 279 acres of fine farm land situated in Concord Township, Miami County, is one of the most highly respected German-American citizens of this section. He was born August 15, 1836, in Wurtemberg, Germany, and is a son of John and Mary Hartstein. The parents of Mr. Hartstein lived and died in Germany. The father operated a paper mill. Of his five children three are living. Two came to America, John and a brother, Louis, the latter of whom was a member of the Eleventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in the Civil War and was killed while on guard duty.

When Mr. Hartstein was a boy in his own land he attended school for a time and when he went to work he drove the oxen for a farmer until he secured a position in a cotton mill, where he worked for five years, at first as a cotton sorter and later as a fine lace-maker. In 1857 he came to America with his brother and they went to Piqua, Ohio, and started in the wagon making business. Finding that this did not pay at that time, John Hartstein went into the woods, being willing to do any kind of work, and made some money chopping wood. The first land he bought was a tract of swamp—fifty acres of it—in Concord Township. This land he cleared and drained and lived on it for forty years. In 1886 he bought eighty-two adjoining acres and lived there until 1906, when he moved to his present farm containing 126 acres, at the edge of Troy, on the Covington Turnpike Road. His other land lies on the Pleasant Hill Turnpike. Mr. Hartstein has helped to build a number of the excellent highways that run through Miami County and he has always been a man of hard work. He is one of the most independent farmers of Concord Township and has earned all he has through his own unassisted efforts.

In 1862 Mr. Hartstein married Miss Hannah Weber, who was born in Germany and came to America with her parents when young. Her father, Philip Weber, settled near Sidney, Ohio. They have had seven children: Mary, Louisa, Clara, John, Charles, Anna and Catherine, the latter of whom died when aged twenty years. Mr. Hartstein and family belong to the German Reformed Church. He is a Democrat in politics.

ALBIN THOMA, who is at the head of the jewelry and optical firm of his name, has been identified with his present business for a period of time covering a half century and in point of time is the oldest dealer in this line at Piqua, Ohio, where he was born in 1844. His father, Augustus Thoma, for many years one of Piqua's prominent and useful citizens, was born at Baden, Germany, in 1819, came to America in 1832, and settled at Piqua in 1838.

In 1838 Augustus Thoma founded the business which is still conducted by his descendants and under practically the same name. Early in the sixties he admitted his two sons, Albin and August F. Thoma, to partnership, and it was carried on by the three members of the firm until 1893, when August F. withdrew and the business was then continued by Augustus and Albin Thoma until the death of the former, December 29, 1900. In the course of time two sons of Albin Thoma were admitted to partnership and the association still continues.

In September, 1866, Mr. Thoma was married to Miss Anna Weigler, who came to Piqua from Cincinnati, in 1862. Mr. and Mrs. Thoma have nine children, four sons and five daughters, namely: Albin L., who is a graduate of the New York Optical College, where he has also taken post-graduate courses; Leo A., who is an expert engraver and diamond setter; Joseph A., who is perfecting his education in optics and watchmaking; Adolph, who is also a student; and Minnie, Louisa, Marie, Anna and Ida. Mr. Thoma has been a member of St. Boniface Roman Catholic Church since its organization. He belongs to the order of Catholic Knights of America and to the Knights of Columbus. He has always been a loyal citizen and early in the progress of the Civil War he endeavored to enter the army but on account of poor health was not accepted. In 1864, however, he went out as a member of Company C, 147th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and during the 100-day period served in the vicinity of Washington City. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He has been connected with his present business since 1858 and is one of Piqua's leading citizens.

ELIAS GARST HAWN, one of Concord Township's most substantial farmers, who resides on the south side of the Covington and Troy Turnpike Road, about one and one-quarter miles northwest of Troy, where his home farm of 191½ acres is situated, owns a second farm, containing eighty-three acres, which lies on the north side of the highway. He was born on the old home place in Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio, in June, 1842, and is a son of John and Catherine (Sailor) Hawn.

John Hawn was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and in early manhood came to Miami County, in company with another young man by the name of Knoop, and they were about the first white settlers in what is now Bethel Township. Indians still made their home throughout this section and wild animals prowled through the dense forests. The Knoop family built one of the earliest distilleries in this part of the county and John Hawn worked in the same for several years prior to his marriage. He subsequently acquired 170 acres of land and cleared up a farm on which he lived during the rest of his life, his death occurring when he was aged eighty-two years. He married Catherine Sailor, who was born in Elizabeth Township, Miami County, Ohio, a daughter of Philip Sailor, one of the early pioneers. There were sixteen children born to John and Catherine Hawn, fourteen of whom grew to mature years and five of whom still live, namely: Elias; William, who resides in Bethel Township; Matilda, who is the widow of John Davis; Eliza, who married Abraham Case; and Ellen, who married David Haines. One of the older members of the family was George W., but all trace of him was lost by his kindred during the Civil War.

Elias G. Hawn helped his father clear his land and later to cultivate it. His mother died when he was about fourteen years of age and shortly afterward he began to think of starting out for himself, but in those days money was not plentiful, many of the farmers being "land rich" but "money poor." He continued to live at home until his marriage and when he finally began for himself it was with a capital of fifty cents in "shin-plaster" money. Mr. Hawn is now one of the township's wealthiest men, but he has accumulated everything he has through his own industry and excellent business management. The first farm he bought was one in Elizabeth Township, but he never lived on it, disposing of it at a profit. In 1888 he purchased his present home farm from John McClung and he has spent a large amount in improving it. His large bank barn is considered the finest structure of its kind in Miami County and people have come hundreds of miles to see it, and his other improvements are equally good. He has made farming his main business and now has several stalwart sons to assist him.

Mr. Hawn was married to Cynthia A. Nutter, who died in December, 1890. To them were born eight children, namely: Ada Jane, now deceased, who was the wife of Joseph Johnson and left three children; William, who married Sarah Iddings, now deceased, married (second) Clara Gensliner, has one child and lives at Troy; Harvey, who assists on the home farm; Charles R., who married Mary Armstrong, resides on Mr. Hawn's farm of eighty-three acres and has four children; James Alfred, who died aged seventeen years; Mack, who lives in Newton Township, married a Miss Musselman and has two children; Alfred, who died when aged twenty-three years; and Roy, who follows farming on the home place. Mr. Hawn had only meager educational opportunities, but he is one of the township's best informed men. In politics he is a Democrat, and he is a member of the Christian Church.

THE COVINGTON ROLLER MILLS, which has for many years been one of the leading industries of Covington, has been successfully operated by various owners, but never has it carried on such an extensive business as at the present time under the management of J. A. and W. L. O'Roark, who are newcomers in Miami County, having located here May 1, 1908. The mills are equipped with all the latest devices in machinery, having been installed with the "Wolf," the "Butler" and the "Case" machinery, and the leading flour manufactured is well known throughout this section as the "Pride of Covington" brand, although they make another high grade flour known as the "Ohio" brand, which is shipped principally to the South.

J. A. and W. L. O'Roark were both born on a farm in Rockingham County, Virginia, the former in 1860 and the latter on December 9, 1870, and are sons of James and Samantha (Bazzle) O'Roark, prominent among the old families of Rockingham County, Virginia.

J. A. O'Roark was reared on the home farm in Rockingham County and early in life learned the carpenter's trade, afterwards engaging as a building contractor at Tenth Legion, Rockingham County, for a number of years. On May 1, 1908, after having disposed of his contracting business, he located in Covington, Ohio, where, in partnership with his brother, he purchased the Covington Roller Mills. He was united in marriage with Cleopatra Armentrout, and of their union have been born the following children: Clyde, Lynn, Ray, Ellis, Ruth, James, and Eva.

W. L. O'Roark, like his brother, was reared on the home farm and also learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked with his brother for a period of six years, when he bought and operated the Tenth Legion Roller Mills with success for six years, after which he sold the business and came to Covington, Miami County, where he formed a partnership with his brother, J. A. O'Roark, and purchased the Covington Roller Mills, which they have since been operating with uninterrupted success. W. L. O'Roark was united in marriage with Annie Magoon, and to them have been born the following children: James Louis; Elton; John, who died aged three weeks; Frank; Jesse; Catherine; and Virginia—all born in Virginia except Virginia, who was born in Miami County.

Both J. A. and W. L. O'Roark are men of public spirit and enterprise and take active interest in affairs which tend to promote the welfare of the community in which they live. Fraternally, they are members of the I. O. O. F. lodge and the Junior order of United American Mechanics.

THOMAS ZIEGENFELDER, of the prominent business firm of J. B. Ziegenfelder & Son, leading grocers at Troy, with quarters on the Public Square, was born at Troy, Ohio, February 10, 1880, and is a son of James B. Ziegenfelder, senior member of the firm.

James B. Ziegenfelder was born at Troy, in 1854, and is a son of Christian Ziegenfelder, who was a native of Germany. Mr. Ziegenfelder is one of the town's old merchants and, in partnership with his son not only conducts the large grocery business referred to, but also operates an extensive greenhouse which is devoted to the growing of lettuce for the market, shipments of the same in the early season reaching to 1,000 pounds a week.

Thomas Ziegenfelder was educated in the public schools of Troy and subsequently took a business coruse in a commercial college at Dayton, upon his return becoming his father's partner in his enterprises. He is numbered with the most active and progressive young business men of the place and is identified with the Troy Business Men's Association. On October 28, 1903, Mr. Ziegenfelder was married to Miss Caroline Heist, who was born at Cincinnati but came to Troy when a child. Mr. and Mrs. Ziegenfelder have one son, Henry James. They are members of the Main Street Lutheran Church, he being on its official board. Fraternally he is an Elk.

JOHN MIKESELL, an honored resident of Covington and one of Miami County's most venerable citizens, was born October 21, 1817, in Bedford County, Pennsylvania, and is a son of William and Susanna (Holsinger) Mikesell.

The parents of Mr. Mikesell moved from Pennsylvania to Ohio and in 1822 settled on a farm near Pleasant Hill, Miami County, where they spent the remainder of their lives. This farm was a wild, uncleared tract of land at that time, and John Mikesell assisted his father to improve it and as he grew into manhood learned the wagon-making trade. He opened a shop of his own north of Pleasant Hill, which he later traded for a farm, but Mr. Mikesell shortly afterward became afflicted with rheumatism, which made farm work impossible, and he therefore disposed of his land and went to selling goods in a store at Pleasant Hill and later at Clayton. In

HORACE J. ROLLIN

MRS. NANCY B. ROLLIN

1850 he came to Covington and was engaged in the mercantile business in this city until 1856, when he sold out and embarked in the milling business, which he continued until 1866. During two and one-half years of this time he operated the Sugar Grove mill, and after that had charge of the Covington mills. Mr. Mikesell next became interested in the nursery business, and for the next fifteen years sold fruit trees, meeting with success wherever he traveled, his journeys taking him over a large extent of country. In 1880 he was appointed land assessor, and in that year assessed Newberry Township. Feeling that his weight of years then entitled him to rest, Mr. Mikesell retired from active pursuits. He makes his home with his son-in-law, W. V. Swisher, at Covington.

W. V. SWISHER was born February 4, 1848, near Versailles, Darke County, Ohio, and is a son of William and Mary (Ward) Swisher. He was reared on his father's farm, which he left in 1869 in order to become a railroad man, starting in 1870 with the old C., C., C. & I., which is now the Big Four Railroad, on the run between Union City, Indiana, to Galion, Ohio, and for five years he lived at the latter place. After that road took over the I. & St. Louis, he was transferred to what is now the St. Louis Division of the Big Four and for fourteen years he was engineer between Indianapolis and St. Louis, living during that period at Mattoon, Illinois. In 1894 he retired from the railroad and moved to his farm two miles northeast of Covington, where he resided until September, 1906, when he came to Covington. Mr. Swisher still retains his farm of sixty-five acres.

Mr. Mikesell was married (first) to Susan Fridley, who died four years later, leaving three children, namely: Andrew F., who lives on a farm north of Covington; Mary, who is the wife of John Rapp, and lives on a farm in Concord Township; and Elizabeth, now deceased, who married Martin Mohler and left three children. Mr. Mikesell was married (second) to Elizabeth Thompson, who is now deceased. There were seven children born to the second union, namely: Thompson, who died when aged four years; Jacob, who died in childhood; Catherine, who is the wife of W. V. Swisher, of Covington; Elnora, who died in childhood; Charles, who died in infancy; Amelia, who married J. L. Miller, of Dayton, Ohio, and has one son, Joseph Mikesell; and Jennie, now deceased, who was the wife of George McGowan and is survived by one son, William Lawson. The mother of these children died December 29, 1900. Mr. Mikesell is the oldest member and a deacon in the German Baptist Church at Covington.

ROLLIN.—Among the oldest families of Ohio, and of this county, is that of Horace Judson Rollin. Four generations have occupied the picturesque homestead, midway between Piqua and Troy.

Josiah Rollin, with his aged mother, came from New England in 1815, after some service in the War of 1812. His canteen still adorns the ancestral hall; and here is his large fireplace, with its crane, broad stone hearth and great mantel, under a part of which is a large enclosed bake-oven. With him came his son Isaac, then a lad old enough to reap wheat and pull flax, and who in time became a representative farmer. He was among the first to use the reaping machine and to manufacture molasses from cane, southern production being checked by the Civil War. One of the supporters of Fremont who was called an "Abolitionist," he long perceived the rising tide which was to overwhelm the institution of slavery. Isaac T. Rollin was public-spirited, belonging to that class of citizens who made Miami County what it is. He passed away in 1890, aged eighty-six.

Five of the six sons, including Horace, then not grown, served in the Union army. The eldest, Charles, who was among the first to enlist, April, 1861, in the Eleventh Regiment, and among the last mustered out, January, 1866, with the Seventy-first, commanded a company in the latter part of the war. At his burial, the late Hon. E. S. Williams, a fellow officer, in his eulogy, said, "What is rare, he respected the private soldier as much as the officer, and his men loved to serve under him. I knew this man in the camp, on the march, and on the battle-field; Charlie Rollin was every inch a soldier."

The mother, Eleanor H. Rollin, who died in 1895, aged eighty-seven, came to Troy in 1812, with her father, a member of the patriotic Hart family of New Jersey, to which belonged the signer of the Declaration of Independence, John Hart. This stock gave good men, including notable officers (her cousin, the gallant Col. J. H. Hart, was wounded at Nashville) to the Federal army and to civil service.

The name Rollin was early identified with the Northwest Territory. Jonathan, elder brother of Josiah, after campaigning with Wayne, was in the first group of settlers here, 1797. And so of the name, it is among the oldest appearing in the annals of America. James Rawlins came from England with the Ipswich settlers in 1632. It has been a fixed surname there for about seven hundred years; some representatives were knighted, and these are the arms granted by Edward IV. to the Cornwall family, of which the above old James of Dover was a member: "Shield sable, three swords paleways, points in chief, argent; hilts and pommels gold. Crest, an armored arm, elbow on wreath, holding in gauntlet a falchion." Similar arms denoting consanguinity, were granted the ancient Hertfordshire and other branches. "As a thing associated with caste," Mr. Rollin declares, like a true American, "it is not worth a fig; as evidence of an early fair degree of intelligence, it has some value." In America the spelling of the name was changed before the Revolution to Rollins, and some now drop the "s." In England it has been Rawlin and Rawlyn, and still more anciently probably Rawle.

In 1656 old James was prosecuted for neglect of coming into "ye public meeting and sentenced to pay courte fees, two shillings and six pence." He found the church narrow, for he was before the General Court at Boston among the persons "yt entertayned ye Quakers;" but he, being more ingenious than the rest in his replies, "was ordered to be only admonished by ye honnored Gouernor, wch was donne."

Joseph, the great-grandfather of Horace, was a soldier of the Revolution, and was at Saratoga. A cousin, Lieutenant Rollins, was at Warren's side when he fell at Bunker Hill; and about twenty of the name served in that war. Recently, in the Union army, there were enough of the descendants of old James to have formed a large battalion, including some distinguished officers — probably including Grant's chief-of-staff, later secretary of war, General Rawlins. Ex-governor Frank Rollins of New Hampshire belongs to this family, as did an earlier Federal senator.

About forty years ago an extensive book of genealogy was compiled, which shows that this family comprises, by direct relationship, or by marriage alliance, many prominent names, as Emerson, Paine, Lincoln, Hale, Putnam, Phillips, Prescott, and scores more or less notable.

Mrs. Rollin was Nancy E. Bridge, of Cincinnati, formerly a teacher in the public schools. John Bridge, her ancestor, came from England in 1631, settling at Cambridge, Mass., on land once the site of Washington's headquarters and the Longfellow homestead. He induced Thomas Shepherd, one of the founders of Harvard College, to join the colonists—there is a bronze statue of Bridge facing the college grounds. President Garfield was one of his descendants. The long line includes soldiers, statesmen, educators and Unitarian ministers. Revolutionary annals show noble patriots:

"John Danforth was hit just in Lexington Street,
John Bridge at that lane where you cross Beacon Fields.
I took Bridge on my knee, but he said 'Don't mind me;
Fill your horn from mine—let me lie where I be.
Our fathers,' says he, 'that their sons might be free,
Left their King on his throne and came over the sea;
And that man is a knave or a fool who to save
His life for a minute would live like a slave.' "

This ancestor was a major and was at Bunker Hill. Col. Eb. Bridge commanded a regiment and served through the war. Rev. Mathew Bridge was among the first chaplains and died in the Revolution.

Mrs. Rollin is eligible also on the mother's side to membership in certain Colonial and Revolutionary societies; her great-grandfather Gates was a soldier, and married a daughter of his captain, Winch. Her grandmother Bridge was a Morse, to which family belonged Prof. Morse, inventor of the telegraph. Horatio Bridge was a friend of Hawthorne ("Dear Hath"), and when the writer was struggling for even a moderate income stood guarantor for the cost of publishing *Twice-Told Tales.*

Mr. Rollin is a painter, and among the lovers of Art who purchased his works appear the names of the late Henry Howe, historian, the Hon. Whitelaw Reid, the late Rabbi Lillienthal, and others well known. His "Old Lane" was shown on the line of the National Academy. "Mother's Spinningwheel," once well sold, was returned to him before the owner passed away, and can now be seen by callers; as can certain moonlight studies. A Miami County pastoral, painted out-of-doors, elicited a letter from Mr. Noble, long the head of the Cincinnati Art School (after study at Paris and Munich. *This is introduced to help those who imagine foreign study necessary, and applies to other pursuits*):

"Now, I must tell you my thoughts while looking at [illegible] 'The [illegible]' that's a charming picture—so fresh, so free from conventionism, so utterly natural. I advised Rollin to go to Paris (where he is sure to become a mannerist, copying the style of others because it is the fashion for those who go there to do so). Now I reverse my opinion. Let him alone with Nature and his own nature, which is so honest and true. He will be better uninfluenced by others, let them be ever so good in their way, for their way is not his way, his being in keeping with his own nature, and his way of seeing Nature, and the rendering of it to be true to his own impressions."

He is the author of "Studio, Field and Gallery," published by the Appletons, a book which received such fine reviews from great journals that Mr. Appleton sent a congratulatory letter. Another book, "Yetta Ségal," is a story with a deep, peculiar motive, as the publishers' announcement indicates: "This work embodies a new and comprehensive theory of race-blending. Mr. Rollin is doubtless the first to formulate a philosophy showing the movement to be evolutionary, universal and destined to culminate in the cosmopolite of the future. But while he shows it to be based on purely biological laws, he warns pioneer movers of the dangers to them."

The great cyclopedias and the text-books of ethnology and biology either omit the subject or treat it in a fragmentary and inconclusive way, although there are several hundred million *known* racial composites, including the beautiful and intellectual. Moreover the movement is spontaneously increasing; therefore science and reason must decide whether it is abnormal, morbid and temporary, or normal and inevitable. Mr. Rollin declares the latter and that the key-note is the compensative: in the interchange needed values are given and received; even the less developed type, from another environment, has some element of strength peculiar to itself to impart, mental, physical or psychical. The more advanced may have deteriorated at some points, or may be naturally lacking in certain qualities necessary to the future symmetrical man. It is simply a phase of evolution. Man's organization becomes more and more complex. This author (declared to be "rarely original") waited many years for authoritative indorsement. Recently Prof. Boaz, lecturing at Columbia University, declared that we—those of advanced type—not only embody the blood of the ancient Mongol but also that of the primitive Negroid!

Nine years after the date of *Yetta Ségal* (whose author had held the belief, in cruder formulation, for about twelve years) came the first book of Luther Burbank: "Training of the Human Plant" (1907). Mr. Rollin had predicted years before that the famous worker must inevitably perceive the reason for human racial convergence, or type fusion, and had corresponded with him. "I highly prize your book," he wrote. "Will send you mine just as soon as I receive a copy. Of course, no one can doubt that the future race will be *composite, all* the *leading* races today are such. Am glad to know that you see so deeply into nature and see that 'the whole Universe is of one piece.' It takes a poet scientist and a science poet to know this, and neither of them separately can fully understand it. Race hatred, which is almost universal at first, is found among plants as well as among human beings. In human beings it is almost invariably found in those of very inferior minds (by my observation). As *you* say, the subject is not only interesting and important but is *transcendent* and *infinite.*

"I am, as you suppose, one of the busiest men on earth, but would like you for a neighbor very much; *why not move to a better land,* you will live twenty years longer for it, I am sure."

An autograph copy of Burbank's work came, inscribed: "With admiration and respect." In the first chapter (written before he had heard of the synthetic philosophy of Rollin) fusion is explained parallelly. It should be noted that both authors—who do not wish to see the movement thoughtlessly accelerated—sound a note of warning to the individual. Nature does not always act according to our conception of kindness, and while favoring the perpetuation and improvement of the race is sometimes relentless to the individual, intelligence is protective. "Increased knowledge," says Mr. Rollin, "means increased circumspection."

As to this homestead, a writer in the *Farm and Fireside* has said: "Drawn by the love of art, music and literature, many persons visit Rollin Place yearly; and all pilgrims to this Mecca are cordially welcomed. Mr. and Mrs. Rollin possess none of the exclusiveness which mars the character of many talented persons."

They hope for the cessation of wars among Christian nations (so called); and for the regulation of those unjust commercial profits which degrade certain capitalists and pinch the "plain people" of Lincoln.

THOMAS LLOYD HUGHES, D. D., deceased, for many years pastor of the First Presbyterian Church at Piqua, Ohio, was a brilliant and scholarly man, whose life was consecrated to religious work, although fields offering greater prominence and success, as measured by pecuniary returns, were opened to him. No estimate of material value can be placed on such work as his was—the constant fight for purity in home and business life, the elevation of the moral tone of the community, the helping hand extended to the down-fallen, and the thousand and one little benefactions and charities performed—but the benefit is a lasting one, even to generations unborn. Rev. Hughes was ever a potent factor for good, and his death, which occurred June 17, 1900, was mourned by the people as an irreparable loss to the community.

Thomas L. Hughes was born in Jackson County, Ohio, April 27, 1850, and was a son of Hon. Thomas L., Sr., and Ann (Jones) Hughes. The father was a native of Wales, where he lived until his thirty-fifth year, then emigrated to America. He engaged in mercantile business at Oak Hill, Jackson County, Ohio, where he continued for some years, and then engaged in the manufacture of pig iron, becoming secretary and treasurer of the Jefferson Furnace Company, and being the holder of a considerable amount of the company's stock. He was a man of great prominence in his county and was frequently called upon to serve the public in an official capacity. He was justice of the peace some years, one of the commissioners of Jackson County, and was elected on the Republican ticket as a member of the Ohio State Legislature. He was a well educated and learned man and possessed marked literary ability. He was a contributor to Welsh magazines and wrote the only life of Christ ever published in the Welsh language in America. He was a devout member of the Welsh Presbyterian Church. After a long and successful career, in which he accumulated a handsome property, he passed from this life in March, 1896, at the advanced age of ninety years.

He was married in Cincinnati to Miss Ann Jones, who was born in South Wales, and who was a young lady when she came to America. She died in 1857 at the early age of thirty-seven years. Five children were the offspring of this marriage, namely: Jane, wife of M. D. Jones, of Jackson County, Ohio; Thomas Lloyd, Jr.; Anna, who died at the age of thirty-eight years and who was the wife of Dr. W. E. Williams, of Jackson County; and Winifred, who died at the age of thirty-five years and who was the wife of J. A. Jones, of Oak Hill, Ohio.

Rev. Thomas L. Hughes attended the common schools of his native village and at the age of fourteen years entered Ohio University. After his graduation from that institution he pursued a post-graduate course in Princeton University. He then studied law in the Cincinnati Law College and was admitted to the bar in Jackson County in 1874. He was engaged in law practice in Jackson for two years, and during that time served one term as city solicitor. Although his progress in the profession had been very flattering, Mr. Hughes felt that his life work lay in another direction and consequently gave up law. In 1876 he pursued a partial course of study in Lane's Seminary, and was ordained to preach in June, 1877. His first charge was the Eckmansville Church, Adams County, Ohio, where he remained three and a half years, and was then successively pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Pomeroy two and a half years, and at Shelbyville, Indiana, nine years. During his pastorate at the latter place, he built a new church and the Portage Mission Chapel. In September, 1892, he accepted the call to the Presbyterian Church at Piqua, Ohio, where he continued until he answered the Final Summons. As a pulpit orator he was eloquent and convincing; his sermons were masterly. Although a deep thinker and a learned man, he clothed his arguments in language which could be comprehended by those less fortunate in the matter of education than he. He held his congregation closely together, and excelled as an organizer and practical worker, being possessed of unusual executive ability. In 1899 he was elected moderator of the synod of Ohio. The degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him by Hanover College, in recognition of his scholarly attainments and excellent work in the church. He was a member of the board of trustees of the Oxford Seminary and also of Lane's Seminary at Cincinnati.

Rev. Mr. Hughes was married at Portsmouth, Ohio, to Miss Hortense Clare, who was born in Jackson County, Ohio, and to their union were born six children, as follows: James Clare, a lawyer by profession and present mayor of the city of Piqua; Catherine, wife of J. B. Wilkinson, of Piqua; Anna, wife of Clarence W. Peterson, of Piqua; Thomas L.; Mary, and Emma, wife of Harry G. Levering, of Kansas City, Missouri.

JAMES SMITH, who comes of an old and respected family of Lost Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, is the owner of 180 acres of good land. He lives about six and one-half miles northeast of Troy. He is a native of Montgomery County, Ohio, the date of his birth being January 27, 1856, and he is a son of Alexander and Isabella (Waymeyer) Smith.

Alexander Smith was the youngest of a large family of children, but owing to his great size was known as the "big brother." He was born in Rock Bridge County, Virginia, where he learned the trade of a blacksmith, but when about twenty years of age he moved from that state on account of his anti-slavery views, and first located at Dayton, Ohio. Through his influence the other members of the family later moved to Ohio. Shortly after his arrival he built a shop at Frederick, about twelve miles from Dayton, and later he became the owner of a farm in Butler Township, Montgomery County, on which he built a blacksmith shop. He worked at his trade and farmed until 1862, when he sold out and moved to Lost Creek Township, Miami County. Here he purchased the farm now owned by his son, Benjamin Franklin Smith, and passed the remainder of his days. He was married in Montgomery County to Isabella Waymeyer, who was a native of that county and whose death occurred two years prior to that of her husband. They were parents of the following children: Sarah, widow of Joseph Ray and a resident of Kansas; Jane, wife of Jonathan Tobias, of Staunton Township; Benjamin Franklin, of Lost Creek Township; James; Wesley, who lives in Lost Creek Township; Harrison, of Nebraska; and William, who died young.

James Smith was a very small boy when his parents moved to Miami County, in 1862, and he received a limited educational training in the public schools. He spent his time at hard work and lived on the home farm until the death of his father, as did the other sons. Alexander divided his property shortly before his death, and James received a good farm of 100 acres, where he now lives. He and his brother, Frank, also purchased 160 acres, which they rent out. He has followed general farming and is one of the substantial citizens of the township. He has traveled quite extensively through the west and southwest parts of this country, and the more he travels the better is his opinion of the community in which he lives. Politically, he is a Republican.

J. M. SPENCER, a prominent young business man of Troy, Ohio, is secretary of the Hobart Electric Manufacturing Company, to which position he was elected in August, 1908. He was born in Piqua, Ohio, in 1883, and is a son of Moses G. Spencer, deceased. Moses G. Spencer was born in County Donegal, Ireland, and about the year 1862 became a resident of Piqua, Miami County, Ohio. He engaged in the dry goods business for a time and later operated a grain elevator as a member of the firm of Spencer & Miller. His death occurred at Piqua in 1900.

J. M. Spencer was reared in Piqua and received his preliminary education in the public schools. After graduating from the Piqua High School in 1901, he entered Wooster University, and in 1905 received the degree of Ph. B. from that institution. He then became identified with the Troy Umbrella and Canopy Company at Troy, and continued with that concern until he formed a connection with the Hobart Electric Manufacturing Company. He is also identified with several other Troy enterprises. In 1907 Mr. Spencer was united in marriage to Miss Caroline McCulloch, of Freeport, Pennsylvania. Religiously they are members of the Presbyterian Church. While in college Mr. Spencer became affiliated with the Beta Theta Pi fraternity. He also is a member of the Troy Club.

JOHN FRANKLIN McALPIN, whose productive farm of seventy-five acres is situated in Staunton Township, on the Troy and Piqua Turnpike Road, three miles northwest of the former city, is one of the township's representative men. He was born May 12, 1863, at Little Rock, Arkansas, and is a son of John Harvey and Rachel J. (Nash) McAlpin.

The father of Mr. McAlpin was born in Tennessee, in July, 1830, but has been a resident of Ohio for forty-five years. Although a southern man by birth and rearing, he was opposed to slavery and was not willing to serve in the Confederate army when his native State was in rebellion against the Union. He was drafted, however, as a soldier and suffered hardship in making his escape. He came to Ohio with his family, from Arkansas, about 1864, settling four and one-half miles northeast of Piqua, where he lived for six years. He then moved on the Mitchell farm, one mile south of Piqua, where he remained for nineteen years. In 1890 he purchased his present farm, which lies three-fourths of a mile from his son's farm. He married Rachel J. Nash, who was born in a southern state, and still survives. The following children were born to them: James M.; Cassandra C., who is the wife of Jotham DeWeese; a babe that died; and John Franklin.

John Franklin McAlpin, known to his friends as Frank, was one year old when his parents came to Miami County. He remembers the first school he ever attended, this being held in a little brick building near Piqua. He began work on the farm before he was out of boyhood, always living at home until his marriage, with the exception of one year, which he spent in the wilderness of southwestern Kansas. After he returned he was married on January 7, 1886, to Miss Elizabeth J. Maxwell, a daughter of Jonas Maxwell, and they have one son, Earl M. The latter is an expert stenographer, being a graduate of a commercial school at Piqua. After his marriage, Mr. McAlpin rented a farm east of Miami City and resided on it for three years, later rented the home farm for one year, and in 1898 bought his present excellent property from George Edge. He has made many substantial improvements, but the farm residence was already on the place.

Mr. McAlpin is a strong Republican in his political principles. At present he is filling the office of turnpike superintendent. He belongs to the Odd Fellows lodge at Troy. Both he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church at Piqua.

WILLIAM E. HENDERSON, proprietor of the Piqua Creamery, at Piqua, has been a resident of this city for the past eleven years and during this period he has thoroughly identified himself with her best interests. Mr. Henderson was born September 26, 1854, near De Graff, Logan County, Ohio, where he was reared and attended school.

Mr. Henderson's first business connection was in the mercantile line, he beginning as a clerk in the drug store of M. D. Brown, at St. Paris, and later becoming a member of the firm, which became Brown & Henderson. After selling his interest there, he became manager of a grain elevator at De Graff, which he operated for three years, and after retiring from that connection he was engaged in farming and stockraising for several years. During five years of this period he was manager of a creamery at De Graff. In 1898, with the experience thus gained, he came to this city and established the Piqua Creamery, one of the largest and best equipped creameries in this section. It has a capacity of 20,000 pounds of butter per week and he receives his cream from Miami, Shelby, and Champaign County farmers and produces a quality of butter that is in constant and increasing demand. He gives employment to some twenty men, who are subjected to the strictest sanitary supervision. He is a stockholder also in the Troy Creamery.

Mr. Henderson was married in 1878, to Miss Clara A. Riker, of St. Paris, Ohio, and they have two children—Paul A., who is engaged in engineering work in Idaho; and Homer R., who is associated in business with his father. Mr. Henderson and family are members of the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church and he is a member of its board of trustees.

JOHN E. HENNE, one of Troy's most highly respected retired citizens, who was active in business in this city for a number of years and identified with the growth and development of this section to a large extent, was born in 1846, in Germany, and when fourteen years of age emigrated to America and located at Troy, Ohio.

Mr. Henne worked at the shoemaking trade for two years after reaching Troy, and then attempted to enter the army, but was refused on account of his youth. He then became a shoe clerk and worked in a store until 1865, when, in partnership with his brother, Charles Henne, he established a shoe store, which they conducted for fourteen years. Mr. Henne then built on South Main Street and engaged in a restaurant business there until 1902, after which he carried on an insurance business until 1909, when he retired from all business activity. In addition to his comfortable residence at No. 652 South Market Street, he has other residence and two business properties in Troy and a farm of 117 acres which is well improved, situated on the Pleasant Hill Road, three miles from the city. Mr. Henne has been a very active citizen and at present is serving on the Board of Review. Formerly he was a member of the Trojan Battery and served as first lieutenant and also as treasurer of the organization. Mr. Henne was one of the organizers of the People's Building and Savings Association Company of Troy, Ohio—capital stock $1,000,000—of which he was one of the first directors and is now vice-president.

In 1865 Mr. Henne was married to Miss Margaret Anna Eitel, who died September 10, 1908, leaving five children, namely: Anna, who is the wife of Judge E. W. Maier; Lillian, who is the wife of George Daugherty, agent for the American Express Company at Troy; Harry and Frank, both of whom are in the jewelry business; and Lafayette. For many years Mr. Henne has been identified with the order of Odd Fellows.

CHARLES CHAFFEE, one of Elizabeth Township's most respected citizens, who resides on his well improved farm of twelve acres, situated in Section 35, one mile south of Casstown, was born in Middlesex County, New Jersey, February 10, 1833. His parents were Charles and Mary Ann (McCullough) Chaffee. The Chaffee ancestors came originally from France and settled in New Jersey, and there the grandfather, Thomas Chaffee, spent his whole life. All his ten children settled in the same State.

Charles Chaffee, father of Charles Chaffee of Miami County, was married in early manhood to Mary Ann McCullough, who was also born in New Jersey, and they had the following children: Thomas, who served as a soldier in the Civil War, later moved to Sandusky, Ohio, and subsequently met death at the hands of an unknown robber; Samuel, who resides at Nickerson, Reno County, Kansas, married (first) to Katherine Blue, of New Jersey, who left three children—Melvinia, Calvin and Charles—and (second) to a lady from Illinois, who left no issue, and (third) to a lady from Kansas, who left one child, Wannetto; Charles, subject of this sketch; and William, who married Maria Wallace, both now deceased, survived by Ocia Belle and Frank.

Charles Chaffee spent his earlier life near Princeton, New Jersey, and then came to Ohio with his brother, locating on the A. R. Barnes farm in Elizabeth Township. He made his home there and secured work by the month on neighboring farms, later worked for John Dye, of Elizabeth Township, after which he went to White County, Indiana, for a season. He later returned to Elizabeth Township and continued to work by the day or month, on different farms up to the time of his marriage, in 1858, after which he settled on a rented farm, the same on which the Knoop home now stands. From there he moved to Shelby County and operated a farm for his wife's uncle for four years, after which he returned to Elizabeth Township and bought his present farm of twelve acres. There were some buildings on the place at that time, but Mr. Chaffee later remodeled the house and erected other buildings and made the improvements which have added much to the value of the place. Here Mr. Chaffee lived for three years and then moved to the Cecil farm and rented it for three years, after which he went back to his own farm for the same length of time, and then moved to a farm near Troy, which is now owned by Frank Knick. Mr. Chaffee then rented his wife's uncle's farm of 200 acres, which he managed for seven years, and moved back then to his own place, which he had increased to forty-seven acres, where he has lived ever since. Mr. Chaffee carries on general farming and raises stock for his own use.

Mr. Chaffee was married July 28, 1858, to Miss Sarah Hale, a daughter of Samuel and Frances (Kissinger) Hale, of West Virginia, and they have had the following children: Roverda Belle, who married S. R. Cashner, of West Milton, and has one daughter; Mayme, who married Lester Miller and has one son, Marvin Hewitt, and a son (of Roverda Belle), Herbert Eugene; Andrew, who married Mattie Johnson, daughter of John and Belle (Long) Johnson, and has had five children—Wilbur, Harold, Sadie Belle, deceased, Bernice and Robert E.; Alice Lovelia, deceased, who was the wife of Harry Knoop; Charles Ellis, now deceased; and Carl C., who lives at Troy, Ohio. Mr. Chaffee is a member of the Baptist Church at Casstown. He is a Democrat in politics but he has never been willing to accept office. At one time he was a member of the Grange, at Casstown, and took an active part in its proceedings.

R. M. O'FERRALL, M. D., a leading physician and surgeon of Piqua, comes of a medical family, inheriting his professional inclinations from an eminent father and grandfather. He was born in December, 1855, at Piqua, Ohio, and is a son of

Dr. John and a grandson of Dr. John O'Ferrall.

The late Dr. John O'Ferrall, father of Dr. R. M., was born at Piqua, Ohio, in 1824, a son of Dr. John O'Ferrall, who was a pioneer physician who settled here in 1819. In 1843, Dr. John O'Ferrall was graduated from Louisville Medical College and located at Piqua, but resided in California from 1848 until 1850, when he returned to Ohio, called to Piqua by the death of his father. He engaged in practice until the second year of the Civil War, when he entered the army, becoming major of the Eleventh Regiment O. Vol. Cav., and served two years. He resumed practice after his return and also took a public spirited interest in the development of this section. In 1869 he built a woolen mill and in 1872 was one of the leading organizers of the Lock flouring mill. He was also instrumental in the rebuilding of the car and agricultural works at Piqua, about the same time. His eminence as a physician was recognized, but he was a man of so active a brain and so possessed of foresight that enterprises outside his profession continually appealed to him, with consequent beneficial results to the community.

Dr. R. M. O'Ferrall was graduated from Kenyon College in 1875, then spent a year in Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia. In 1880 he was graduated from the Medical College of Ohio, and was interne in the Cincinnati Hospital for one year. After a short season of relaxation in the West, he located permanently at Piqua, and here he has sustained the medical reputation the name of O'Ferrall has so long enjoyed. He has always shown enthusiasm for his profession and is a valued member of the Miami County, the Ohio State, and American Medical Associations and belongs also to the Association of Surgeons of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. He is a surgeon for the Pennsylvania & C. H. & D. Railroad.

In 1886 Dr. O'Ferrall was married to Miss Pauline Bassett, who was born in the State of New York, and they have two sons: Kirk Bassett, who is a student at Kenyon College; and John Dwight, who is a student in the Piqua High School. Dr. O'Ferrall is junior warden of St. James' Episcopal Church. He is a member of the Piqua Club and of the Loyal Legion military order.

OSCAR VAN HORN, a resident of Covington for almost half a century, is a well known citizen and is clerk in charge of the railway mail service on what is known as the Pittsburg-St. Louis Railway Postoffice, being first appointed by President Garfield, in 1882. He was born in Champaign County, Ohio, January 27, 1857, and is a son of William and Rebecca Ann (Mathews) Van Horn.

The father of Mr. Van Horn resided on a farm at the time of the latter's birth, but he was a stone-cutter by trade and mainly worked as such, and as early as 1838 he assisted in building the old court house at Dayton. In 1860 Mr. Van Horn's parents started for Missouri and on their way reached Covington just at the time that Fort Sumter was fired on by the Confederates. William Van Horn decided, on account of the disturbed condition of the country, to move no farther west and then settled on the lot of ground in this city on which their son Oscar now lives. The eldest son, Robert E., although only fourteen years of age, ran away from home to enter the army, and enlisted in the Sixty-first O. Vol. Inf., and served through the Civil War, being injured in the last battle, that of Bentonville, North Carolina. Although he still survives and is a resident of the State of Indiana, he suffered for a long time in a hospital from his wound, having been shot entirely through his body.

William Van Horn started up in the stone business at Covington, where he acquired a stone quarry, and he continued to work as a stone-cutter up to the time of his death, in 1895, when he had the record of being the oldest worker in that industry in the State of Ohio. His death was unexpected, taking place while he was on a visit to his son, Warren S., at Detroit, Michigan. He married Rebecca Ann Mathews, who died in 1893. They had five children, namely: Robert E.; Margaret A., who is the wife of Andrew Cruzen, living in Michigan; Oscar; Edward, a twin brother of Oscar, residing at Piqua; and Warren, who is a railway clerk on the Michigan Central Railroad between Detroit and Chicago.

Oscar Van Horn was reared and educated at Covington. Under his father he learned the stone-cutting trade, at which he worked until he entered the railway mail service. He is one of the oldest railway mail clerks in the United States, in point of years of service, and he has seen this branch developed to its present perfection. During the first administration of the late President Cleveland, he was out for three years, but was returned under President Harrison and was promoted to be clerk in charge under the second Cleveland administration, this being on account of his proficiency and not for political reasons. The position is one of great responsibility, requiring the utmost accuracy and careful attention. Of the fourteen men in Clerk Van Horn's crew, three are from Covington.

Mr. Van Horn was married to Miss Ella E. Medford, a native of Kentucky, and they have one daughter, Ada C. The latter married Dr. L. A. Ruhl, of Covington, and they have one son, Joseph W. Mr. Van Horn is a member of the leading fraternal organizations and an official in a number of them. He is a Thirty-second degree Mason and is past master of Covington Lodge, No. 168. He is a past grand of Covington Lodge, No. 383, Odd Fellows, and is past chancellor of Stillwater Lodge, No. 233, Knights of Pythias.

C. W. MONTGOMERY, head of the Montgomery Printing Company, has been a resident of Troy, Ohio, for nearly twenty years and is one of the most active of the younger generation of business men. He was born at West Milton, in Miami County, Ohio, in May, 1865, and is a son of Stephen and Sarah (Randall) Montgomery.

C. W. Montgomery was reared in his native village, and attended school there and one year in Dayton. When about fifteen years of age he began learning the printing business in West Milton, where he continued for three years and then moved to Indianapolis. He was employed by the job printing establishment of Carlon & Hollenbeck for a number of years. In 1890 he located at Troy and for some years was foreman of the printing plant of the Buckeye Company; he was part owner of that concern nine years, after which he sold out, and in November, 1903, he established the Montgomery Printing Company. He does general job printing and has built up a large and well paying patronage. In 1894 C. W. Montgomery was united in marriage with Miss Martha Landrey, who was born and reared in Troy. He has taken a more or less active interest in politics, and has served on the Democratic County Central Committee and the executive committee, being secretary of the latter for four or five years. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Masons.

HARRY JAMES HARSHBARGER, a representative business man of Tippecanoe City, assistant manager of the Tipp Whip Company, was born in this city, January 17, 1870, and is a son of Isaac and Anna (Kable) Harshbarger.

Isaac Harshbarger was born in Miami County, Ohio, and was a son of Henry Harshbarger, who came to this section from Virginia. About 1867 Isaac Harshbarger moved to Illinois, but returned to Tippecanoe City, where he died when aged about thirty-eight years. He married Anna Kable, a daughter of James Kable, who also moved to Illinois, but died at Tippecanoe City. Mrs. Harshbarger still survives. The family consisted of two sons and three daughters, namely: A. L., who is a member of the Tipp Whip Company, and married Kittie Staley; Mary, who is the wife of F. G. Davis, of Tippecanoe City; Bertha, who is the wife of Prof. H. Hutchins, principal of the public schools of Toledo; Harry James; and Mabel, who is the wife of Rev. H. J. Collins.

Harry J. Harshbarger attended the public schools of his native city and took a commercial course in the Wilt Business College, at Dayton, and for two years officiated as bookkeeper and stenographer for the Dayton Dry Goods Company, and for nine years more was with the Ware Coffee Company, of that city. Since 1900 he has been identified with the Tipp Whip Company.

In June, 1895, Mr. Harshbarger was married to Miss Mary Hogendobler, a daughter of Frederick Hogendobler. She was reared at Springfield. They have three children, Frederick, Mary and Benjamin. Mr. Harshbarger is a member of Tippecanoe Lodge, No. 174, F. & A. M., and Chapter and Council at Troy, and belongs also to the Modern Woodmen and Royal Arcanum. In politics he is a Republican.

JOHN H. FECKER, superintendent of the plant of The Favorite Stove and Range Company, at Piqua, and identified with other business enterprises, has been a resident of this city for some twenty years. He was born at Covington, Kentucky, where he completed his school attendance in boyhood. Mr. Fecker began work for the Favorite Stove people many years ago, first operating a drill and later learning stove plate moulding in their foundries. Through his own industry and enterprise he has worked his way up to his present position, one of great responsibility, which he has filled since January 1, 1907. Not only is he a thorough master of detail and skilled in all the branches of the work which he must, in a manner, oversee, but he possesses the qualities of a good executive officer and finds little trouble in managing the large force of employes. Mr. Fecker is identified with a number of fraternal organizations, belonging to the Eagles, the Red Men, the American Mechanics and the Iron Moulders' Union, at the present time being an honorary member of the latter. He served one term as a member of the city council, 1906-07.

HENRY DAVIS, general farmer and owner of eighty acres of valuable land situated in Section 4, Elizabeth Township, was born in Perry County, Ohio, October 16, 1864, and is a son of Casper and Rachel (Plummer) Davis.

The parents of Mr. Davis were farming people and he lived at home until his marriage, and then came to his present farm on which he has lived ever since. He has two sisters: Sarah, who is the wife of McClain Kennedy; and Nancy, who is the widow of William Lestley. Mr. Davis helped to build all the farm structures. He has a fine orchard and raises the usual crops of this section, but has given but little attention to growing tobacco. All his surroundings indicate a large amount of comfort.

Mr. Davis married Miss Effie May Warner, who is a daughter of John and Minerva Warner, and they have three children, all making good progress at school —Bertha, Earl and Edith. Mr. Davis and family attend the Christian Church at Addison.

JOHN H. BAKER, M. D., who is recognized as one of the leading physicians and surgeons of Piqua, has been a resident of this city for the past fourteen years and is identified with all that is best in its life. He was born in Perry County, Ohio, in 1870, and there grew to manhood.

From the public schools of Perry County, Dr. Baker entered the Ohio State University and later Starling Medical College and was graduated with his degree from the latter institution in the class of 1895. He located at Piqua, choosing this city for both business and social reasons, and has become a valued citizen and a prominent professional man here. He is a member of the Miami County and Ohio State Medical Societies and of the American Medical Association. His well equipped office is located at No. 215 West Ash Street.

In 1900 Dr. Baker was married to Miss Helen Constance Castle, a lady of much literary talent, whose contributions regularly appear in the leading magazines of the day. She was born at Leavenworth, Kansas, and is a granddaughter of Capt. William J. Downs, who came to Miami County in 1837. She is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Capt. William J. Downs was a prominent civil engineer, and with his father-in-law, laid out the Miami and Erie Canal, and also constructed the St. Mary's Reservoir.

CHARLES A. HARTLEY, M. D., one of Troy's best established physicians and surgeons, was born in 1847, in Columbiana County, Ohio, and secured the larger part of his literary education at Columbus Grove. In early manhood, Dr. Hartley made his choice of profession. After proper preparation he attended medical lectures at Western Reserve College, at Cleveland, Ohio, and later the Eclectic Medical Institute of Cincinnati, where he was graduated in February, 1871. For a short time he practiced in Kansas and then returned to Ohio, locating for six months in Warren County and then settling at Casstown, in Miami County, where he con-

CHARLES A. HARTLEY, M.D.

tinued for twenty years, when, in April, 1892, he came to Troy. He is identified with all the leading medical bodies of his school of practice, including the State and National Eclectic Associations, the Central Ohio Eclectic Medical Association, the Miami County Medical Association, and the Ohio State Medical Association. In 1875, Dr. Hartley was married to Miss Sarah M. Allen, who formerly was a popular teacher in the public schools of Troy, and the wife of M. T. Rossiter, of this city. Dr. Hartley is a member of the Presbyterian Church. He is a Knight Templar Mason and belongs also to the Odd Fellows. In his character as a citizen, he is they have one daughter, Clara E., who is broad minded and public spirited.

DAVIS MARION HONEYMAN, whose finely improved farm of eighty acres is situated in Concord Township, on the western township line, about four and one-half miles west of Troy, is one of the self-made men of this section who has gradually built up his fortune from a small beginning and takes a justifiable pride in the fact. He was born in the old log house on the home farm near Troy, Ohio, January 18, 1856, and is a son of Michael and Lucinda (Hoover) Honeyman.

Mr. Honeyman belongs to a pioneer family of Miami County, his grandfather, Benjamin Honeyman, coming here when the whole country was a forest and swamp land. He established himself near Nashville, Miami County, and to his first acquisition of land kept adding until he owned 400 acres, and gave each of his children forty acres. He lived to be eighty-two years of age and he was buried on his own farm, where many of the family rest. His children bore these names: William, Charles, Michael, Andrew, Benjamin, Serena, Anna, John and Susan. The two survivors are John and Benjamin. Serena was married to George Idemiller, who is also deceased; and Anna was the wife of Samuel Curtis, also deceased.

Michael Honeyman, father of Davis M., was probably born in Pennsylvania, but he was quite young when the family came west, making the long journey through a wild region, in wagons. He grew to manhood near Nashville and helped his father to clear up the land and often told of the valuable timber that was burned by the pioneers; much of it, if now standing, would mean a fortune to its owners. He lived at home until he was married and then bought eighty acres of the old Jenkins farm, three miles west of Tippecanoe City and went to housekeeping in the old log house that still is tenanted. He acquired other land until he owned 300 acres, this being his estate at the time of his death, which occurred in 1893, when he was aged seventy-five years.

Michael Honeyman married Lucinda Hoover, who was born across the river from Milton. Her father was John Hoover, of German descent, who was one of the very early settlers in Miami county. The following children were born to Michael Honeyman and wife: Webster, who died young; Sarah Jane, deceased—was the wife of William Frantz, also deceased; Benjamin, residing in Montgomery County, Ohio; Almeda, deceased—was the wife of David Jones, also deceased; John, deceased; George, residing at Tippecanoe City; Davis M.; Hanford, residing in Darke County, Ohio; Harvey, residing in Miami County, Ohio; Emeline, wife of Ira

Grisso, of Miami County; Cora, widow of Frank Fritz, of Miami County; and Enos, who lives on the south end of the old home farm near Troy.

Davis M. Honeyman remained at home helping his father until his own marriage. He found but little time to attend school, but went through the winter months sometimes, but the greater part of his boyhood and youth was put in in very hard work. For three years after his marriage he lived on a farm belonging to his father, and in 1884 bought his present farm from Fred Fowler, and here he has engaged very successfully in general farming ever since. All the substantial buildings on the place were put up by Mr. Honeyman. When he started out for himself he received the gift of a horse from his father and with that went to work, exercising the prudence which has resulted in his now owning one of the very good farms and comfortable homes in the township. The handsome ten-room frame residence, setting back from the highway, he put up in 1903, having built the commodious barn in the previous year.

Mr. Honeyman was married December 7, 1881, to Miss Anna Elizabeth Smith, a daughter of John and Mary (Idemiller) Smith. Mrs. Honeyman was born in Miami County, but her father came from Pennsylvania and her mother from Germany. Two children were born to this marriage: Minnie, who is the wife of Hubert Frantz, has one child and they live at Pleasant Hill; and Elnora, who lives at home. In politics Mr. Honeyman is a Democrat. He is an active citizen in his township and has served two terms, of three years each, on the School Board.

WILLIAM A. VANDEGRIFT, a member of the firm of Bashor & Vandegrift, extensive dealers in farm implements at Covington, Ohio, is also one of the best known auctioneers and land criers in this section of the State, his services being constantly in demand and his successful sales amounting to very large sums annually Mr. Vandegrift was born May 11, 1873, on a farm in Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Miller) Vandegrift. The father of Mr. Vandegrift resides on his farm in Darke County, Ohio, to which he moved from Miami County. The mother died in Darke County.

William A. Vandegrift was reared on the John Rhoades farm and was an apt pupil in the public schools. Until 1895 he devoted himself mainly to farming. In that year he established a grain business at Rangeville, on the C., H. & D. Railroad, and in November, 1897, a postoffice was established there, named Abe by the efforts of Mr. Vandegrift, and he became its first postmaster. He continued in the grain business for five years and then gave himself the benefit of a vacation, spending seven months in an extended trip through the western States. In the latter part of 1906 he went into partnership in the farm implement business with S. B. Bashor, who had conducted a business of this kind at Covington for three years. The firm of Bashor & Vandegrift do a very large business. They have commodious ware and exhibit rooms and if their daily crowded condition is any indication of sales, they must provide for residents of a large territory. They handle only the most reliable machinery and implements and keep fully abreast of the times. Their high commercial rating and trade standing enable them to make reasonable prices and conditions. Mr. Vandegrift married Miss Alice Smith and they have three children—Ray Ernest, Velma May and Luther Omer.

S. B. Bashor, senior member of the firm of Bashor & Vandegrift, like his partner, was born on a farm in Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, December 13, 1863, and is a son of Benjamin S. and Susanna (Martin) Bashor, the former of whom was a very prominent farmer and the latter a member of the old Martin kin, some of the best stock in the county. Both are now deceased. S. B. Bashor was appointed by Governor Bushnell, in June, 1896, supervisor of the State Deaf and Dumb Asylum, at Columbus, and he served in that capacity for four years, giving entire satisfaction. After the close of his official life he established himself, in 1901, in the implement business at Columbus, where he remained until he came to Covington, in 1903. He married Miss Carrie B. Hartle, a daughter of A. J. Hartle, and they have three children—Glenna, Io and J. Lee. Mr. Bashor is a member of the Knights of Pythias and is a Thirty-second degree Mason.

C. E. HETHERINGTON, M. D., one of Piqua's well established professional men, has been engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery here for the past eight years and is the leading exponent of homeopathy. He was born at Piqua, in January, 1875, and is a son of William Hetherington and a grandson of William Hetherington.

It was the elder William Hetherington who established the family in Miami County, and in 1838 he built the old lime kiln in Piqua and for many years was engaged in business as a contractor. The second William Hetherington was born at Piqua in 1852 and for a long period was identified with the manufacturing interests of this city. He is now president of the Ohio Handle Company, which plant is located at Jonesboro, Arkansas.

Dr. Hetherington was reared in his native city, and after graduating with credit from the Piqua High School entered the Ohio Wesleyan University, where he was graduated in 1896, with the degree of A. B., and later was granted the degree of A. M. He graduated in 1901 from the Chicago Homeopathic College, of Chicago. He immediately settled at Piqua, and has never had reason to regret his choice of business field. He is a member of the Miami and Shelby County Homeopathic and the Ohio State Homeopathic Societies and of the National Homeopathic Society, through them keeping in close touch with the remarkable scientific discoveries of the times in his profession. Mrs. Hetherington is a daughter of Elias Kerns, an old resident of Miami County. Dr. Hetherington is a member of the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church. He belongs to the Odd Fellows, and various other secret orders and to the Piqua Club.

PETER BOHLENDER, one of Tippecanoe City's most respected citizens, an old and experienced man in the nursery business, to which he has devoted twenty-seven years in Miami County, was born in the walled village of Arlembaugh, in the Kingdom of Bavaria, Germany, February 1, 1838. His parents were George and Mary Bohlender.

In the spring of 1847, when Peter was scarcely ten years old, his parents decided to emigrate to America. They secured passage on a sailing vessel and after forty-seven days of voyaging, the ship safely reached the harbor of New York, where another long trip awaited them before they could join their relatives living at Dayton, Ohio. This included a voyage by boat up the Hudson River to Albany, then by the Erie Canal to Buffalo, from there by steamer to Erie, and thence to Beaver, Pennsylvania, thence to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, from there to Cincinnati, and then on to Dayton. In a short time the father purchased a little home, some three miles from Dayton, between the Covington and Salem Turnpikes, and there both parents of Mr. Bohlender lived during the remainder of their lives, the father dying when aged fifty-four years and the mother when aged seventy-three years. Their family consisted of two daughters and three sons, namely: John, Frederick, Peter, Adaline and Catherine.

Peter Bohlender, who is the only survivor of the above family, was early put to work, beginning with George Heiks, a nurseryman, with whom he continued for a number of years, and later he was with George Muma and for several years in the employ of John Wampler, receiving a salary of $1,000 a year. Mr. Bohlender developed a natural taste for the nursery business and has devoted to it the whole of his industrial period, covering some sixty years. His present enterprise is one of importance. He erected his present buildings in 1908 and handles all kinds of shrubs and evergreens and all varieties of fruit trees and ships his stock all over the country and even to Mexico.

In 1863 Mr. Bohlender was married to Miss Annie Belle Elmore, who resided near Covington, Miami County, and they have had the following children: Thomas, who has full charge of the field work of the Gen. Bidwell ranch in California, and is there engaged in the cattle business; Edmond, who is a graduate of the Ohio Medical College, at Cincinnati, and engaged in medical practice at Dayton; Howard, a graduate jeweler, who is prospering in the jewelry business at Dayton; Fletcher, who is associated with his father in the nursery business at Tippecanoe City; Lou V., who is the wife of Harry Kyle, who is connected with the Spring Hill nursery, and has three children—Mary Belle, Elizabeth and Thomas Barton; and Ivy, who is assistant teacher at Steel High School, Dayton. Mr. Bohlender has given all his children good educations and has the satisfaction of seeing them all well established in life. He has never taken any active part in politics, but has so lived that his fellow citizens fully understand where he stands when just laws are to be upheld, desirable public measures are to be furthered, or contributions to charity are being collected.

L. A. RUHL, M. D., is successfully engaged in the practice of his profession at Covington, Miami County, Ohio, and maintains his office and residence on East Wright Street, adjoining the Presbyterian Church. Dr. Ruhl was born in Covington, September 7, 1877, and is a son of Josiah W. and Zipporah (De Vault) Ruhl. His father is president of the Citizens National Bank, of Covington, and one of the leading business men of the place. The subject of this sketch was reared and educated in his native village, graduating from the Covington High School in 1896. He pursued a scientific course in Wittenberg College, at Springfield, and after his graduation from that institution matriculated at Jefferson Medical College, of Philadelphia. After a full course of four years, he was graduated with the degree of M. D. in 1905, and immediately thereafter opened his office for practice in Covington. He is a member of the Miami Medical Society, of which he is at the present time vice-president, the Ohio State Medical Society, and the American Medical Association. He is also a member of the Masonic order. Dr. Ruhl was united in marriage with Miss Ada C. Van Horn, a daughter of Oscar Van Horn, of Covington, and they have a son, Joseph W. Ruhl. Religiously they are members of the Presbyterian Church.

REV. GEORGE P. STEINLAGE, rector of St. Boniface Catholic Church, of Piqua, Ohio, was born in Osnabruck, Germany, in 1840. His literary education was acquired in the schools and colleges of his native land, including the college of Meppen, in Hanover, where he was graduated in 1859. He came to America in the following year, sailing from Hamburg to New York. On his arrival here he went to Cincinnati, Ohio, entering St. Mary's Seminary, where in 1863 he completed the course in philosophy and theology. He was ordained in the same year by Archbishop John B. Purcell, and received his first assignment, which was as assistant to the Very Rev. Joseph Ferneding, of St. Paul's Church, Cincinnati. He was subsequently transferred to St. Philomena's Church, in that city, for two years being assistant to Father Tobbe. He was then appointed pastor of St. Joseph's Church at Hamilton, Ohio, and during the seven years which he spent there, labored with zeal and efficiency, building a church and schoolhouse. He was next assigned to a charge at Taylor's Creek, where he remained for over five years, going thence to Reading, Ohio, for a two years' pastorate. On February 14, 1881, Father Steinlage came to Piqua as rector of St. Boniface Church. Since coming here, besides carrying on the ordinary work of the parish, he has made some important improvements, remodeling the church and parsonage, the former of which was built in 1865 at a cost of thirty thousand dollars, the latter being erected in 1879. He also paid off the indebtedness of thirteen thousand dollars which he found against the church property on his arrival here. This property includes a good school of four large rooms, which is under the care of eight Sisters of Christian Charity, and is attended by 200 pupils.. Both the school building and the residence of the Sisters were built by Father Steinlage. The parish now numbers three hundred families residing in the city and surrounding country, to which Father Steinlage is both a spiritual guide and a friend and counselor in the various troubles and perplexities of life. His field of labor is wide and arduous, but he conscientiously performs his duties, content to deserve as his final reward the words of his Divine Master, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

SAMUEL N. NEAL, who carries on general farming on an estate of 109 acres, which is situated on the Brandt and Addison Turnpike Road, in Section 2, Elizabeth Township, is one of the representative men of his section of Miami County. He was born January 22, 1882, in Elizabeth Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of James K. and Martha (Saylor) Neal.

James K. Neal was born in Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of James Neal, who had a large family of children and was an early settler in the vicinity of Miami City. There James K. Neal went to school in his boyhood and then worked around on farms until he married, after which he settled first on a rented farm in Bethel Township, and later in Elizabeth Township. He is now retired and resides very comfortably on a small place of one acre, which he can manage for himself. He married Martha Saylor, a daughter of Philip and Jane (Ramsey) Saylor, and they had eight children, namely: William, Frank, Oscar, Effie, Samuel N., Clarence, Harry and Rena.

Samuel N. Neal enjoyed excellent public school advantages in Oak Grove and continued to attend school until he reached the legal limit, after which he was elected assessor of Elizabeth Township and served one term. He then turned his attention to teaching school, and during vacation time followed the carpenter's trade. After teaching for three years and three months, he settled on his present farm, renting it from George Crawmer, and has carried on farming very successfully ever since. Mr. Neal finds no time hanging heavily on his hands, for when opportunity does not offer in one direction, he is able to employ himself to advantage in another. In politics he is a Democrat and takes an active interest in township affairs of a public nature.

Mr. Neal was married November 29, 1905, to Miss Lizzie Crawmer, a daughter of George and Minerva (Thompson) Crawmer. He belongs to Lodge No. 406, K. O. T. M., at Tippecanoe City. Mr. Neal is recognized as one of the rising young men of his township, well educated, progressive and enterprising.

CYRUS T. BROWN, secretary and treasurer of the Troy Wagon Works Company and a director and vice-president of the First National Bank of Troy, Ohio, is one of the substantial and influential men of Miami County, and makes his home on the old Brown homestead in Staunton Township. He comes of an old and respected family of the county and was born on the farm on which he now lives, June 13, 1844. He is a son of Daniel and Eliza (Telford) Brown, and a grandson of Arnold and Elizabeth (Owens) Brown.

Arnold Brown was a native of Rhode Island, where he was engaged in blacksmithing until 1832, in which year he moved west with his family to Hamilton County, Ohio, where he turned his attention to farming and cheese making. In 1836 he moved to Miami County, Ohio, purchasing 160 acres of land in Staunton Township, which formed the nucleus of the present magnificent farm belonging to his heirs. He added to his holdings from time to time and was a man of considerable affluence at his death. He married Elizabeth Owens, and they reared six children as follows: Daniel, John, Elizabeth, who became the wife of Louis Morse; Mary, who married C. W. Singer; Joseph, and Almira. Mr. Brown died in 1869 at the advanced age of eighty-four years.

Daniel Brown was born at Chepachet, Rhode Island, May 9, 1809. When a boy he found employment straightening spindles in a cotton factory at Providence, that state, for which he received the munificent sum of two cents a day and his board, continuing this work for one year, and walking home thirteen miles from the factory every week to spend his Sundays at home. Later he accompanied his parents to Ohio, and resided on the home farm from the time it was purchased in 1836 until his death in 1878. He always farmed and accumulated a handsome property, having some 500 acres in the home place. June 13, 1843, he was united in marriage with Eliza Telford, who was born on the old Telford farm in Concord Township, Miami County, near the present site of the county fair grounds; she was a daughter of Andrew and Jane (McKaig) Telford; her death occurred November 27, 1899. The following were the issue of their union: Cyrus T.; Cornelia, who is now deceased; Dr. Mary B., who has been a practicing physician in New York since 1880 and has met with remarkable success in her profession; Arnold O., who resides in Troy, Ohio; Harry W.; and Rebecca, who died at the age of two years. Daniel Brown gave liberally of his means to the Troy Presbyterian Church, which he attended, although not a member. He was a generous-hearted, fair-minded man, and had the good will of all with whom he was brought into contact.

Cyrus T. Brown was educated in the district schools of Staunton Township and the public schools of Troy and spent his boyhood days in work upon the farm. When twenty-four years old he was placed in charge of the 500-acre farm by his father, and since the latter's death he has had the management of it. His labors, however, were not confined to the farm, as he became interested in some of the foremost enterprises of the city of Troy. He was one of the organizers of the Troy Wagon Works Company, of which he is secretary and treasurer, and he contributed materially to the success of the flourishing plant operated by that company. He also was one of the organizers of the Miami Farmers' Fire Insurance Company, of which he has been treasurer for more than thirty years. His position as vice president and one of the directors of the First National Bank has been already referred to, and he was also clerk of Staunton Township for more than twenty years. Politically he is a Republican but has never been active in political affairs. He is a man of wide acquaintance in the county and has many friends.

HENRY WARE ALLEN, president of the First National Bank of Troy, Miami County, Ohio, was born in Pembroke, Mass., April 6, 1822, a son of the Rev. Morrill Allen. The family to which he belongs on the paternal side came from England in the first quarter of the seventeenth century. Rev. Morrill Allen was a man of superior education and a minister of the Unitarian church. Beginning his pastoral services at the early age of twenty-two, he labored as a faithful shepherd for nearly four-score years, preaching a sermon on his ninetieth birthday. He was for the most part of his time engaged in agriculture, being the owner of a good farm in the vicinity of Pembroke.

Henry Ware Allen, after laying the

foundation of his education in the common schools of his home neighborhood, pursued further literary studies in the academy at Hanover, Mass., and the normal school at Bidewater, that state. In 1848, when twenty-six years of age, he came to Ohio and settled in Troy, with the interests of which city he has since been so closely and prominently identified. His first investment was in a mill property, with which business he was connected for many years, meeting with a very satisfactory degree of success. His operations brought him into touch with the leading business men of the city and county and led to his becoming one of the prime movers in the organization of the First National Bank, of which he has ever since been the efficient president. He has kept in close touch with the various interests of the county ever since his early manufacturing days, and perhaps no man is better informed as to general business conditions. In 1855, taking advantage of a favorable opportunity, he erected a fine block, and he has since at different times added to his real estate holdings until at the present time he is a large property holder. The financial institution of which he is the head was founded in 1847 and has a capital and surplus of over $270,000. It is numbered among the safe and conservative institutions of the state. D. W. Smith is the cashier. As a far-seeing, capable and energetic business man, Mr. Allen easily stands in the very first rank among the citizens of this part of the state. His ability is reflected in the management of the bank, and its prosperity and sound commercial standing is the result in large measure of his guiding hand.

Mr. Allen's first marriage was with Mrs. Mary D. Hastings Smith, in January, 1851. She died in July of the same year and Mr. Allen subsequently married for his second wife, Pamela Hale, a daughter of Dr. Asa Coleman. Of this union there were ten children, seven of whom are now living. Mr. Allen has a commodious and tasteful residence at the corner of Simpson and Market Streets.

WARREN N. WINTERS, dealer in wire fence and representative of the American Steel Wire Fence Company of Chicago, has his residence and place of business in Staunton Township, on the Urbana Pike, about three-quarters of a mile from the public square in Troy. He has been located at his present residence for ten years, and has been in the fence business for some twelve years, putting up many fences throughout the country surrounding Troy. He is a capable business man and has met with a high degree of success. Mr. Winters was born in Elizabeth Township, Miami County, Ohio, July 23, 1868, and comes of an old and respected family of that township, where both of his parents were born and died. He is a son of Obadiah and Mary (Stevenson) Winters.

Warren N. Winters was born and lived until eight years old on the old home farm in Elizabeth Township, then with his parents came to Staunton Township for nine years, afterwards returning to Elizabeth Township. He received his education in the public schools. He followed farming until he engaged in his present business and about 1898 moved to Staunton Township. He owns the home in which he lives, and a good residence property adjoining. Mr. Winters was united in marriage with Miss Bertha Hagen, who was born and reared in Champaign County, Ohio, and is a daughter of Augustus and Catherine (Smith) Hagen, her father a native of Germany and her mother of Darke County, Ohio. She was quite young when her parents moved to Miami County, Ohio. Fraternally, Mr. Winters is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Troy. He is a man of wide acquaintance in this vicinity and is held in high esteem.

JOHN W. BROWN, vice-president of The Miami Light, Heat and Power Company, vice-president of The French Oil Mill Machinery Company and identified with numerous other successful enterprises of Miami County, is one of the most prominent business men of Piqua and is owner and proprietor of the largest general store between Dayton and Toledo, which has been recently completed at Piqua.

For the building of his immense business house, Mr. Brown secured the best site in Piqua and has given the city the finest structure of its kind in this section of Ohio. Its dimensions are 40 by 156 feet, with four stories and basement and fine stone front. The entire basement is devoted to household goods and the stock is complete. The first floor is devoted to the display and sale of dress goods, silks, trimmings, laces, embroidery, linens, ginghams, underwear and hosiery, fine goods collected from the best mills in the country. The second floor's display includes millinery, muslin underwear, ladies' waists, silk and mercerized petticoats and ladies', children's and misses' cloaks and suits. On the third floor are found carpets, draperies and floor coverings, while the fourth floor is devoted to mattings, oil cloths, linoleums, trunks and suit-cases. The business is to be incorporated under the style of The John Brown Company, a close corporation, with a capital stock of $100,000. Mr. Brown is a director in the Piqua National Bank, the Piqua Savings Bank, the French Oil Mill Machinery Company, the Piqua Handle Company, the Piqua Furniture Company and the Miami Light, Heat and Power Company. In the developing of large enterprises, Mr. Brown has shown remarkable business acumen, and his influence is very largely felt in the concentration of capital and the encouragement to trade, throughout city and county.

In 1888 Mr. Brown was married to Miss Nettie E. Brooks, of Piqua. They are members of St. James Episcopal Church, in which he is a vestryman. He belongs to the Piqua Business Men's Association and to the Piqua Club.

LEWIS D. VINNEDGE, superintendent of the Riverside Cemetery, which is owned by the city of Troy and is situated in Staunton Township, was born January 9, 1863, in Fairfield Township, Butler County, Ohio, and is a son of Clinton and Sarah (Bitler) Vinnedge and a grandson of George Vinnedge.

George Vinnedge was born November 30, 1809, and was a son of John and Rosanna (Moore) Vinnedge, and a grandson of early settlers in Pennsylvania, who, on the paternal side, came from Germany and on the maternal side from Ireland. John Vinnedge came to Ohio as a soldier under Gen. Anthony Wayne and not only helped to send the Indians still farther from the frontier but later did a brave man's part in the War of 1812. When he came to Ohio and saw the rich land awaiting settlement, he secured 100 acres of the Symmes Purchase, which was located three miles east of Hamilton, on the present Middletown Turnpike, and later purchased thirty acres more. While serving under General Wayne he held the office of pack-horse master. Both he and wife were great adherents of Methodism and their dwelling was often a place of worship and their table and fireside were hospitably offered to the pioneer circuit-rider. John Vinnedge lived to the age of ninety-five years, dying at the home of his son George Vinnedge, in August, 1868. He married Rosanna Moore, who was born in Ireland and was brought to America by her father, Patrick Moore, who came to Ohio in 1779 and was known as a gentleman farmer.

George Vinnedge was one of a family of nine children and his rearing was that of the pioneer youth of his time. When about twenty-six years of age he bought a farm in Fairfield Township, Butler County, Ohio, which he later sold and purchased one of 200 acres in Union Township and later added other properties until he owned 337 acres. He was married December 23, 1831, to Malinda Robbins, and they had five children, two sons and three daughters.

Clinton Vinnedge, father of Lewis D., was born in Butler County, Ohio, where he was reared, educated and spent his life, his death taking place in 1865. In 1860 he married Miss Sarah Bitler, who died April 28, 1896. She was a daughter of Rev. Michael Bitler, a minister of the Methodist Church. One child was born to that union, Lewis D. Mrs. Vinnedge contracted a second marriage, with H. D. Delap, who died in 1906. All their six children survive, namely: Harry; Delia, who is the wife of J. F. Ingle; Daisy, who is the wife of J. G. Slemmons; Maude, who is the wife of Harry Rocks; George; and Queenie, who is the wife of John Ainsworth.

Lewis D. Vinnedge spent his boyhood on the home farm and completed his education in the High School at Hamilton, Ohio. When eighteen years of age he came to Troy and entered the business house of Weatherhead, Norris & Howland, as a clerk, continuing there for fourteen years. Following that long term he was in the employ of Gross Bros. for eight years. Mr. Vinnedge then bought a small farm adjoining the cemetery part of the old Henry Kephart farm and there engaged in growing tobacco. On June 1, 1907, he was appointed superintendent of the Riverside cemetery, a position he has efficiently filled ever since. Mr. Vinnedge was married February 18, 1885, to Miss Edith Weatherhead, daughter of J. D. and Jane (Howland) Weatherhead. He is a Republican in his political views, and he is a member of Franklin Lodge, F. & A. M., at Troy.

WILL J. PRINCE, M. D., a leading physician and surgeon of Piqua and one of the city's most active and public-spirited citizens, was born in 1861, at New Bremen, Auglaize County, Ohio, and is a son of the late Dr. William Prince.

In 1864 Dr. William Prince moved with his family, to Piqua, and he continued from then until his death in 1877, in the active practice of his profession. He was a graduate of the Eclectic Medical Institute of Cincinnati.

Dr. W. J. Prince attended the Piqua schools and Chickering Institute, and after completing special courses at Wittenberg College, entered the Eclectic Medical Institute of Cincinnati, in 1883, and was graduated there with his degree in 1887.

He came back to Piqua and here has found a satisfactory field of work, and congenial surroundings for his life outside his profession. In addition to a large general practice, he is retained by a number of the local manufacturing plants as surgeon. He is a member of the Miami County and the Ohio State Medical Societies, the American Medical Association, the National Medical Association and the Eclectic State Medical Society. From early manhood he has taken an interest in public affairs and in the welfare of the city and has given much professional service to aid in establishing its sanitary condition and for four years was most useful in the position of health officer. For nineteen years he has been a member of the School Board, has been president of the Board of Public Safety and served one term as president of the Ohio Board of Education. Dr. Prince was the first to encourage athletics in the public schools in Piqua, and their cultivation in the schools has spread throughout the state and given rise to an organized body known as the Ohio State School Athletic Association, divided into four districts. During one administration of the late ex-President Cleveland, he was pension examiner.

In 1887, Dr. Prince was married to Miss Jeanette Snyder, of Washington City, D. C., and they have one son, Will J. Jr., who is a member of the graduating class of 1909 at the Piqua High School.

Dr. Prince is a Royal Arch Mason, has filled the office of exalted ruler in the Elks, and has several times been sent as a representative to the Grand Council of the Red Men, and is also examining physician for several beneficiary orders. His life has been one of more than ordinary activity and usefulness.

FREDERICK STEIL, late a leading merchant of Troy, and for years one of the foremost business citizens of Miami County, was born in Bavaria, Germany, November 15, 1850. His father was John Steil, a teacher for many years in the public schools of Bavaria, carrying on his professional duties in one schoolroom for thirty-seven years—from 1860 to 1897. He died in the year last mentioned, honored and respected by all in the community in which he had labored so long and faithfully. He was a successful and typical product of the thorough educational system which prevails in Germany, having advanced from one grade and from one school to another until he was graduated from the University of Kaisers Lautern, the normal school for the training of teachers in Bavaria.

Frederick Steil began his education in the public schools of his native town, graduating to the Latin school at the age of fourteen years, where, besides Latin, French and English were taught. He had in America an uncle, Adam Steil, who was then a prosperous merchant of Troy, this county, having founded in 1859 the dry goods business that is now carried on by the subject of this sketch. In 1865, at his uncle's invitation, young Steil, then only fifteen years old, came to the United States and entered his uncle's store as a clerk. He thus continued until Adam Steil's death, which took place in December, 1876, when he succeeded to the ownership of the business. While in his uncle's employ he gave close attention to all the details of the business until he thoroughly understood every part of it, and also spent his spare time in the earlier years in careful study of the English language, which he soon mastered. After succeeding to the business he developed it into one of large proportions and it is now one of the most substantial, complete and prosperous enterprises of the kind in Miami County, or indeed, throughout this section of the state. In the line of dry goods, carpets and cloaks it is the largest establishment of its kind in Troy and the stock handled by the firm is of the best and finest quality. Mr. Steil's son, William, was admitted as a partner in the business, which has been subsequently carried on under the style of Fred Steil & Son. The firm obtained an enviable reputation for fair and honest dealing and this policy had its natural results, as none occupied more enviable position than Mr. Steil among the prosperous merchants of the city. His death occurred October 8, 1908, and caused great regret among the business citizens of Troy generally.

While maintaining his old love for the Fatherland, Mr. Steil closely identified himself with American ideas and institutions, both moral and political. A member of the Republican party, he claimed, however, the right to do his own thinking, and no politician or set of politicians could deliver his vote for him. Like most of his fellow countrymen he was a good citizen of the American republic, and in local affairs was always found on the side of progress and good government.

He was married, October 28, 1875, to Miss Christina Ziegenfelder, a daughter of George Ziegenfelder, of Troy. Of this union there is the son, William, already mentioned, who was graduated from the Troy High School in 1899. He is a young man of good business ability and his prospects are bright for a successful career.

Mr. Steil was an active member of the German Lutheran church, which he served for twenty-five years as treasurer, being also a member of the official board. He belonged to the Masonic fraternity, in which he had advanced as far as the commandery. His home—in a fine and tasteful residence—was on fitting occasions the scene of a warm and bounteous hospitality. Mrs. Steil is also a member of the German Lutheran Church.

JAMES McCLARY, deceased, formerly one of Newberry Township's most respected citizens and prominent and useful men, was a worthy representative of one of the sturdy old pioneer families of Miami County. He was born on the old McClary homestead farm, about two miles north of Covington, Miami County, Ohio, February 18, 1821, and died at Covington, April 15, 1906. His parents were John and Eliza (Brandon) McClary.

The father of the late James McClary was born in Kentucky and came to Miami County, Ohio, in 1812. He brought with him his wife, Eliza Brandon, who was born in South Carolina, a daughter of Benjamin Brandon, a Revolutionary soldier, who settled in Miami County about the same time, locating near Piqua. Shortly after marriage, John and Eliza McClary established the home ever since known as the McClary homestead, not far from Covington, Miami County.

On the above farm James McClary grew from childhood to manhood. Pioneer conditions prevailed, great expanses of uncleared land and forest stretching between

JAMES McCLARY

the different civilized points, a trip to the mill, in his boyhood, involving as much preparation and loss of time as now is required to cover hundreds of miles by train or automobile, and the performance of many errands, except the one of carrying the grist and waiting for it to be ground by means of the old-time water wheel, and the returning home with the bag of flour on the back of his pony in front of him. He was quite small when he first began to be entrusted with this very important mission and when he was permitted to spend the first night, when part way home, at Grandfather Brandon's, he thoroughly enjoyed the unusual relaxation. In his boyhood, work instead of play, came first, not a great deal of time being given, either, to the acquiring of knowledge. He was wont to tell his children of his first primer, which was made out of a paddle, on which his alphabet was printed and which served the purpose very well. Many ingenious and thrifty methods were made use of in the early days, when books were scarce and money was little in circulation. Life had many hardships for both youth and age, in those days, but, on the other hand, more simple pleasures pleased than satisfy the present generation, and there are few of the old remaining pioneers who will not fondly recall the early times. Work, outdoor life, sufficient recreation, all contributed to James McClary growing into strong and sturdy manhood, while a naturally quick understanding and generous disposition, brought him the confidence and esteem of those with whom he was associated.

In 1842 James McClary was married to Nancy Buchanan, who was a daughter of Col. George Buchanan. The latter was a native of Rockingham County, Virginia, where he married Nancy Cassiday, and together they came to Ohio, in 1803, locating first at Deerfield, Warren County. Probably in the spring of 1808 the Buchanans moved to what is now West Milton, Miami County, where the father engaged in farming until the opening of the War of 1812. He then became captain of an organization known as the Frontier Guards and was placed in charge of the supply depot at the junction of Greenville Creek and the Stillwater, the names designating these points at that time being Fort Buchanan and Fort Rowdy—now Covington, a quiet little city far removed from any indication of military disturbance. At the beginning of the war, Colonel Buchanan removed his family to the east side of the Stillwater, in Montgomery County, just over the county line, and there the Buchanans lived until 1830, when Colonel Buchanan settled on a farm in Section 6, Newberry Township, Miami County, which remained the permanent home. By trade he was a carpenter and cabinetmaker but he never lost interest in military affairs and following the close of the War of 1812, remained active in the militia. Both he and wife were members of the Christian Church. He lived to the age of eight-three years, dying in 1862, and was survived for nine years by his widow.

Following his marriage, the late James McClary built a house on a small tract of land which his father had given him off the old homestead, in recognition of his cheerful assistance given all through his youth, and on that place he lived until his parents died, a few years later. He then sold out and went to Piqua and during the eighteen months of his residence there he began to acquire shares in the old homestead and subsequently purchased the interests of all the heirs and became sole owner of the property. During the years of subsequent residence on the farm, he assumed all the duties of a citizen of his township and frequently was tendered public office and at times served as assessor and as a member of the Board of Trustees. Later, when he retired to Covington, he was elected a justice of the peace, serving most acceptably in that position for a number of terms, and for years was occupied in settling up estates and administering upon them. He was a man of such undoubted and unimpeachable integrity, that his fellow citizens entrusted to his judgment their most important business concerns.

Mr. McClary was married (first) to Nancy Buchanan, who died in 1888, and several years later he was married (second) to Susan Trout. His four children were born to his first union, namely: Eliza Evaline, deceased, who was the wife of John West; George D., who lives in West Covington; Winfield Wesley, who lives at Butler, Pennsylvania; and Laura, who resides on North High Street, Covington. Miss McClary is one of Covington's best known and most highly esteemed ladies and probably one of the most substantial, owning various residence and business properties in this city. She takes a natural pride in her ancestry and justly cherishes and reveres the memory of her father.

W. J. SMITH, proprietor of the Enterprise Foundry Company of Troy, Ohio, with plant situated on West Main Street and the city limits, is an enterprising and representative business man of Troy. Mr. Smith was born in the great city of London, England, in 1866, and he came to America when a youth of seventeen years.

During a residence of some five years at Detroit, Michigan, Mr. Smith learned the foundry business in every detail and went from there to Chicago, Illinois, where he was engaged in the business for one and a half years. He then returned to Detroit and went from there to Toronto, Canada. He then visited his native land but his years of absence had changed his views in many ways and he decided to again make the United States his home. He again worked at Detroit, then at Chicago and from there went to Moline, Illinois. After spending a considerable period of time there, he went back to Detroit and then visited Piqua, Ohio. For three years he was with the Favorite Stove and Range Company, after which he organized the Ideal Stove and Foundry Company, and after buying out the Girard Stove and Foundry Company at Youngstown, Ohio, located at Daleville, Indiana. He only remained at that point for seven months, finding better business opportunities as superintendent of the Chicago Stove Company, a position he filled for four years, after which he returned to Piqua and then organized the Enterprise Foundry Company, as sole proprietor. He continued there six years when, on February 1, 1900, he leased the Troy Foundry & Machine Company and he now operates his entire business under the style of the Enterprise Foundry Company. He is interested in other enterprises and is a man of ample fortune, all of which he has made for himself in legitimate business.

In 1895 Mr. Smith was married to Miss Ida M. Tietje, whose father, Henry A.

Tietje, is a prominent contractor at Dayton, and whose grandfather was a pioneer manufacturer there. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have one son, James Henry. Mr. Smith is a member of the Episcopal Church. Fraternally he is a Mason, belonging to the Blue Lodge Chapter, and Council. He is also an Odd Fellow, a Knight of Pythias, an Elk, and a member of the Order of Foresters, and is an honorary member also of the Iron Moulder's Union of North America, and of the Past Chancellor's Association of Miami County. He is more or less active in politics and served as central committeeman of his ward in Piqua.

OSCAR SHROYER, a representative general farmer and well known citizen, resides on his valuable farm of ninety-five acres, which is situated five miles east of Tippecanoe City, in Section 10, Bethel Township. He was born March 8, 1848, in Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Jacob and a grandson of Thomas and Elizabeth (Fry) Shroyer.

The grandparents of Mr. Shroyer came from Maryland and settled in Bethel Township, Miami County, where the grandfather acquired a quarter section of land, which he cleared up and made into a fine farm. He was one of the founders of the German Reformed Church in this section.

Jacob Shroyer, father of Oscar, was born in Maryland in 1807. He died in Bethel Township, February 19, 1889, and was laid to rest by the side of his second wife in the New Carlisle Cemetery. He was a farmer all his life and at the time of death owned a large body of land in Bethel Township and a farm of 134 acres in Clark County. He was a member of the German Reformed Church. For many years he was a prominent factor in politics and held responsible local offices for a protracted period, performing the duties of the same honestly and efficiently. He was thrice married, his first wife being Margaret Black, who at death left the following children: Thomas, Matilda, Catherine, Anna, Harriet and Henry. His second wife was Susan Stockstill, a daughter of Thomas Stockstill. She died in 1864 and was buried at New Carlisle. The children born to this union were as follows: John, Oscar, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel C. and Jacob. His third marriage was to Priscilla Mann Mendenhall, to which no children were born.

Oscar Shroyer was reared in Bethel Township and attended the district schools and afterward assisted his father on the home farm until the time of his own marriage, in 1875, when he settled on a farm in Section 10, which he rented from his father. Later he moved to Clark County and lived on his father's farm of 134 acres until it was deeded to his sister, when he returned to the old homestead, and when his father died he received his present farm of ninety-five acres. All the buildings were standing and he has had to do little improving, the land being well drained and in fine workable condition. Here he raises the bounteous crops which Bethel Township soil gives to the careful and intelligent farmer, and here has reared a large and interesting family.

Mr. Shroyer was married in 1875 to Miss Viola Mouk, a daughter of Andrew and Susan Mouk, of Clark County, and they have had the following children: Harry Walter, who married Stella Snyder, daughter of Thomas and Ruberta Snyder, and has one child, Ruberta Viola; Guy T., who is in the employ of the Sidney Steel-scraper Company, of Sidney, Ohio; Dorothy C., who resides at home; Grover C., who married Maude Bousman, daughter of Elmer and Myrtle Bousman; Earl, who resides at home; Susan, who is a member of the class of 1909 in the Bethel High School; Lloyd, who is a student in the class of 1912, in the Bethel High School; and Robert, who has not yet reached the High School, but, like the older members of the family, shows a quick intelligence and love of learning. Mr. Shroyer and family attend the Lutheran Church at Brandt. In politics he is a Democrat and has frequently been tendered township offices, all of which he has refused except that of township trustee, in which he has acceptably served a number of terms.

MAURICE E. STANFIELD, chief engineer of the City Water Works at Troy, Ohio, is one of those quiet, efficient, reliable men, on whose shoulders rest so much of the comfort and health, business prosperity and even social pleasures of a community. The chief engineer directing the utilities of a city is often one of its most necessary men. Mr. Stanfield was born September 10, 1856, at Fredericksburg, Ohio, and was one year old when his parents removed to Miami County.

Until he was about twenty-five years of age, Mr. Stanfield remained on the home farm and then went into railroad work, first as fireman on the Big Four Railroad between Indianapolis and Springfield. From there he was transferred to the Ohio Southern, and after a year there was just on the point of receiving well earned promotion, when the illness of his wife caused him to give up that position and accept one that would enable him to have a stationary home. This he found with the Troy Wagon Works and for twenty years he operated their engines and became known as so thoroughly responsible, that the city fathers offered him the position of chief engineer of the city works. He accepted the offer and severed the pleasant relations which had existed so long with the proprietors of the wagon works, the parting being one of respect and esteem on both sides. Mr. Stanfield has occupied his present position since 1902.

In 1878 Mr. Stanfield was married to Miss Clara McDonald, who died in 1893. He was married (second), in 1894, to Miss Laura Lewis, who was born near Covington, Ohio. Her father was born in Marion, Ohio, and came to Miami when a boy and became a substantial farmer. He was also a prominent Democrat and held county offices. Mr. and Mrs. Stanfield are members of the Christian Church. He is a member of the Masons and Odd Fellows, and he and his wife are members of the Order of Rebekah. He was a charter member also of the Order of the Golden Eagles.

JOHN WILLIAM SHROYER, who owns one of the finest farms in Bethel Township, consisting of 212 acres, situated on the Tippecanoe and Carlisle Turnpike Road, in Sections 17 and 18, was born in Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio, November 3, 1845. His father was Jacob and his grandfather was Thomas Shroyer.

Thomas Shroyer was born in Maryland and was a carpenter by trade. He married Elizabeth Fry and when they came to Miami County they had a family of three sons and two daughters—Henry, John, Jacob, Polly and Elizabeth. Henry Shroyer later was appointed constable in Bethel Township, and met death from an assault made on him while he was making an arrest. John married Eliza Rawl and both lived and died in Bethel Township. Polly married a Joseph Shroyer and Elizabeth married Elias Stockstill, of Shelby County, Ohio. Thomas Shroyer acquired a farm of 160 acres in Bethel Township and cleared up almost all of it. He was one of the leading men of his section at that time. Both he and wife died on their pioneer farm and were buried in Bethel Cemetery. They were worthy members of the German Reformed Church.

Jacob Shroyer, father of John William, was a young man when he came to Miami County and when his father died he came into possession of a generous portion of the home estate and to this he subsequently added until he owned 700 acres in Bethel Township. He was a leading Democratic politician and as a public man was held in the highest esteem. For forty years he was elected to the office of township treasurer, for ten years was a trustee and at one time his party put him forward as its candidate for county treasurer. He died in old age, in February, 1889, and was interred at New Carlisle. Bethel Township remembers him as one of her most honest and useful men.

Jacob Shroyer was thrice married. His first union was to a Miss Black, who, at death, left six children—Thomas, Matilda, Catherine, Annie Maria, Henry and Harriet. His second marriage was to Susan Stockstill, a daughter of Thomas Stockstill, and there were six children also born to this union—John William, Oscar, Sarah, Rebecca, Camelia and Jacob. This wife was buried at New Carlisle. His third marriage was to Priscilla Mann, who left no issue. All three were women of most estimable qualities. Jacob Shroyer was a member and liberal supporter of the Reformed Church.

John William Shroyer was reared on the home farm and spent his school days in Bethel Township, where he secured what was considered a very fair education. He continued to assist his father until his marriage, when he settled on his present farm, one which was already cleared with the exception of a few acres and improved with substantial buildings. The county ditch runs through his property and thus ensures excellent drainage. As his land lies only four miles east of Tippecanoe City, Mr. Shroyer and family are able to enjoy both rural and urban advantages and these are appreciated as he has a family that is more than usually intelligent. Mr. Shroyer devotes his large farm to general agriculture and to stock raising.

In 1868 he was married to Miss Margaret Anna Williams, who is a daughter of John and Anna Williams, and they have had the following children: Hershel, who married Clara Mumford, and has six children—Marie, Hazel, Carl, Parker, William and Raymond; Ida, who married William Wray, and has two children—Laverne and Maurice; Anna, who married Benjamin Kissinger; Glendora, who married Leroy Gross; Jacob, who married Ada Ledgeworth, daughter of James Ledgeworth; Bessie, who resides at home; Irwin Franklin, who is a member of the class of 1910 in Starling Medical College, at Columbus, Ohio; Marvin, who lives at home; Leroy, who is a student in the

Bethel High School; and Margie, who attends Glenwood school in Bethel Township. Mr. Shroyer and family attend the Methodist Episcopal Church. In his political views he is a Democrat but he takes no very active interest in public matters and the only office he was ever willing to accept was that of school director, in former days. He is one of the township's most esteemed and respected citizens.

GEORGE W. CONRAD, a quarter-century resident of Troy, is one of the representative business men of this city and is extensively interested in real estate and fire insurance, with offices at No. 122 West Main Street. Mr. Conrad was born February 22, 1851, at Columbus, Ohio.

In 1852 the parents of Mr. Conrad moved to a farm near Monroe, Michigan, from which they removed seven years later to Versailles, Missouri, the long journey being made in covered wagons. This was an unfortunate change of home, resulting in the death of the father, in the fall of 1861. He was a man of pronounced Union views and for the expression of these was killed by a band of Quantrell's guerillas. His distracted widow took her little sons and went back to Marysville, Ohio, and there George W. Conrad grew to manhood. His education was secured in the public schools and as soon as old enough he made himself useful in his brother's carriage blacksmith shop, subsequently learning the trade. In 1885 he came to Troy, accepting at that time the position of foreman of the blacksmith department of the Troy Buggy Works, and continued with that firm until 1892, when he went with the Troy Bending Works, continuing there until that plant was sold out in 1902 to the Pioneer Pole and Shaft Company, with which he remained two years longer. On account of ill health amounting to an attack of nervous prostration, Mr. Conrad was then forced to give up all business for three years, and when he resumed his activity in October, 1907, he bought out the fire insurance business of A. R. Hawthorne, widened its scope and has conducted it ever since. He represents the Home, of New York, the Aetna, of New York, the Springfield Fire and Marine, the Pennsylvania of Philadelphia, the Newark of Newark, New Jersey, the Aachen Munich, of Aix-la-Chapelle, Germany, and the Fidelity and Casualty, with many others. He owns three farms in Miami County and handles much realty both in the country and city. He has been an active citizen and has served in the City Council.

In 1881 Mr. Conrad was married to Miss Mary Nichol, of Marysville, Ohio, and they have four sons: Herman W., who is in business in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, is a graduate engineer of the Ohio State University; John Leonard, who is a student of music at the Conservatory at Oberlin College; George Edward, who is taking a course in architecture at the Ohio State University; and Albert C., who is a student in the Troy High School. Mr. Conrad and wife are members of St. John's Evangelical Church at Troy, of which he is treasurer.

JOHN THOMAS McKEE, a leading agriculturist of Bethel Township, residing on his rich farm of 105 acres, which is situated in Sections 3 and 4, was born in Knox County, Ohio, April 25, 1848, and is a son of John and Catherine (Crawford) McKee, and a grandson of Robert McKee.

Robert McKee was born in the north of Ireland and when he came to America about 1814, he settled in Harrison County, Ohio, where he spent the remainder of his life. He became a man of large landed estate, owning 280 acres, a large part of which still remains in possession of the McKee family. He died in 1855 and was buried at Cadiz, Ohio. He married Catherine Miller, who died in 1852 and they had thirteen children, namely: James, Archibald, Robert, John, Thomas, George, Margaret, Hannah, Rachel, Eliza, Rebecca, Jane and Emma.

John McKee was born in Harrison County, Ohio, attended school at Cadiz and then assisted his father until his own marriage, after which, in 1832, he settled in Knox County, where he entered two tracts of land from the Government, one of 130 and another of 240 acres. He continued to live on his land in Knox County until his death, which took place in 1861. His widow survived until 1889 and both were buried at Mt. Vernon. They were worthy members of the Mt. Vernon Methodist Episcopal Church. John McKee married Catherine Crawford, a daughter of George Crawford, and they had four children, namely: Robert, James, Emma and John Thomas, the last named being the only survivor. In politics the grandfather had been a Whig and the father was a Republican.

John Thomas McKee was educated in the public schools of Knox County and Martinsburg College, after which he assisted his father in his large agricultural operations. On April 20, 1889, he came to Miami County and settled on his present farm, which he has greatly improved, building his present handsome residence and remodeling the other farm structures. He has laid some 400 rods of drain tile and carries on the cultivation of his land according to the best accepted methods.

Mr. McKee was married (first) in March, 1868, to Miss Mary Wallace, a daughter of David Wallace. She died June 14, 1900, and was interred at Utica. She was the mother of three children: Clyde D., who married Pearl Coults, and has one daughter, Lucile; Arthur Texas, associated with his father; and an infant, deceased. Mr. McKee was married (second) December 26, 1901, to Mrs. Ida Jones, widow of James Jones and daughter of John and Sarah E. Keizer. Mr. and Mrs. McKee are members of the Presbyterian Church. In politics he is a Republican.

CAPT. JOSHUA L. BABB, one of Troy's best citizens, now living retired, is an honored member of the Grand Army of the Republic, having won distinction in the great Civil War. He was born July 22, 1833, at Babb's Mills, six miles east of Troy, Ohio.

Daniel Babb, father of Captain Babb, was born in Pennsylvania a short time after his parents landed in America from Germany. The family soon moved to Virginia, where Daniel was married. After their second child was born they made the long overland journey from Virginia (now West Virginia), in pioneer style to Ohio, and before he settled permanently, he spent a year in Piqua. He then bought a mill in Bethel Township, which had been put up in 1818, and which he remodeled and operated until his death many years later, this mill giving the name to the little settlement around it—Babb's Mill. He also owned a large farm and was the leading man of his section.

On his father's farm in Bethel Township, J. L. Babb grew to manhood. The call to arms in 1861 aroused his feelings of loyalty and he resolved to offer his services in defense of the Union. He enlisted in Company C, Seventy-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and for four years bore the hardships and faced the dangers of a soldier's life. He participated in many of the most memorable battles of that great struggle and his valor was recognized by frequent promotions. From a private in the ranks he climbed step by step until in 1863 he was commissioned captain of his company and served as such until he was mustered out. He took part in the battles of Shiloh and Stone River and was in the whole campaign in the Army of the Cumberland from Nashville to the fall of Atlanta, after the latter being sent to San Antonio. He was finally mustered out in the fall of 1865. He did not entirely escape injury, being wounded by a shell at Shiloh.

A short time after his return from the army, Captain Babb entered the manufacturing firm of Warder, Bushnell & Glessner, at Springfield, Ohio, as general manager on the road, and continued his association with this house for thirty-five years. After resigning his office he resided some six years in New Jersey, but, as he advanced in years early ties made themselves felt and three years since, he returned to this section which had been his childhood home and took up his residence among those who had been the friends of himself and family for a long period. He found a hearty welcome awaiting him.

ORA REAVER, general farmer, residing on a valuable property containing ninety-nine acres of excellent land, which is situated in Section 30, Bethel Township, was born July 21, 1875, in Monroe Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Jacob Reaver.

Jacob Reaver, father of Ora, was born in Pennsylvania and after he came to Ohio he settled on a rented farm in Montgomery County and moved from that to one in Bethel Township, Miami County, where he yet resides. He married Sarah Nolen and they have had the following children: Oliver, who married Winnie Priest, daughter of William Priest, and has three children—William, Charles and Harry; William, who married Bertha Widener, daughter of Miller Widener, and they have two children—Elmer and Donath, the latter an adopted child; Ora, subject of this sketch; Jacob, who married Della Horneback, daughter of James Horneback, and they have one son, Ernest; Mary, who married George Flick, and has two sons, Francis and Jacob; Stella, who married Lyle Snider, now deceased, and she survives him and has one child, Margie Ellen; Walter, who lives at home; and Ida and Annie, both deceased.

Ora Reaver obtained a good public school education, attending the Shilo school in Montgomery County and later the Antioch school, and the Frog Pond and Oak Grove schools. He then gave help to his father on the farm and later worked for three years for A. L. & M. Jackson. He then served an apprenticeship of three years to the carpenters' trade at Phoneton, after which he visited the West, being induced to go so far from home on account of the call of the western farmers for workers in their harvest fields. In this capacity he visited North Dakota, Missouri and Kansas for four seasons and knows all that country well. When he returned to Phoneton he resumed carpenter work and for two years was foreman for the Dayton & Toledo House Wrecking Company, of Dayton, Ohio. After his marriage he took up his residence on his wife's farm and here he has made a number of improvements, remodeling, building and painting. This property is admirably located, being within two and one-half miles of Tippecanoe City.

On December 15, 1908, Mr. Reaver was married to Miss Bertha Brown, who was born in Greene County, Ohio, and is a daughter of William and Hannah Brown, the latter of whom died October 14, 1879, and was buried at Maple Hill. William Brown resides at Yellow Springs, in Greene County, where he conducts an extensive nursery. Mrs. Reaver owns the farm of ninety-nine acres on which she and husband reside and also owns a farm of 145 acres which is situated in Section 31, Bethel Township. Mr. Reaver is identified with the Democratic party.

A. B. CAMPBELL, a leading attorney of Troy, Ohio, has been a resident of this city for the past fourteen years. He was born in 1876, on a farm one mile south of Troy, and is a son of William Campbell. The father of Mr. Campbell was born in Pennsylvania. From that state he came to Ohio and in 1860 he settled in Miami County, where he continues to carry on his farm enterprise.

A. B. Campbell was reared on the home farm and obtained his early educational training in the country schools and at Troy. He then entered the Ohio Northern University, where he was graduated from the law department, May 30, 1900. He had secured his higher teacher's certificate, prior to this and taught school for three years. After his admission to the bar he located for practice in Troy and has been prominent here both professionally and politically. In 1902 he was elected prosecuting attorney and was re-elected in 1905, resigning the office of justice of the peace in order to accept the later honor. He has been a successful attorney in many important cases before the courts, while, in his public capacity, he has been a faithful official. On April 10, 1901, Mr. Campbell was married to Miss Anna M. Heist, and they have one daughter, Phyllis Louise. Mr. Campbell is a member of the Elks and the Knights of Pythias, and also of the Elk Club.

W. A. HAINES, a representative member of the Miami County bar, enjoying a substantial practice at Troy, has been a resident of this city for about seventeen years. He was born February 28, 1869, on his grandfather's farm in Concord Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Theodore Haines, who was born in Kentucky and died in Miami County in 1874.

W. A. Haines completed his literary course at the Southern Illinois State University at Carbonville, in the early eighties, graduating in the high school teachers' course. For seven years and three months he then devoted himself to teaching school and then turned his attention to the study of law, preparing with Attorney W. S. Thomas, of Troy and being admitted to the bar in 1895. Mr. Haines returned to teaching for one year longer, having been exceedingly successful in that profession, and then spent one year in Judge Williams' law office. In 1897 he was elected city solicitor and after serving one term he found his time sufficiently occupied with private business and has closely applied himself to his professional work ever since. He is a member of the Miami County Bar Association and practices in all the State and in the Federal Courts.

In 1900, Mr. Haines was married to Miss Blanche Bousman, of Miami County, and they have two daughters, Mildred and Helen. Mr. Haines is identified with the Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias, the Elks, and the Troy Club.

JOSEPH J. SCHMIDT, general farmer and dealer in hard wood lumber, resides on a small farm in Bethel Township, near Brandt, but owns a second farm which contains 144 acres. He was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, June 12, 1856, and is a son of Henry and Christina (Miller) Schmidt.

Henry Schmidt was born in Germany, where his father, George Schmidt, owned considerable of an estate and operated a large flour mill. The great-grandfather was a merchant and ship owner and, with a brother, helped to supply the vessels that brought the Hessian soldiers to America during the Revolutionary War. George Schmidt never came to the United States; six of his children found homes here: Adam, Justice, John, Lewis, George and Henry. The latter was twenty-three years of age when he reached Baltimore, Maryland, where he first secured work by the day. He married and later bought a grocery store at Dayton, which he conducted for a few years, coming to Brandt in 1859. He operated a hotel and grocery at Brandt until 1880, and then sold out to William Serell. He died at Dayton and was buried there. He was a worthy member of the German Lutheran Church. While he always voted with the Democratic party, he never sought office nor took any active part in public movements. He married Christina Miller, who survives and resides at Dayton, but still owns a farm in Bethel Township. They had four children, namely: Joseph J.; Elizabeth, who married Charles Bond, of Dayton; Minnie, who married Charles A. Snyder, of Brown Station; and George M., who married Lillian Kaufman.

Joseph J. Schmidt attended his first school at Brandt, second and later at Dayton, where he was a student for one and a half years. He then began to take a settled interest in farming. After his marriage he moved to Brandt for a year and then returned to the homestead, on which he has made all the improvements. In addition to tilling his land he deals in lumber, timber and land, being one of the township's most active business men.

Mr. Schmidt was married to Miss Anna E. Black, a daughter of Adam and Julia (McEfee) Black, and they have four children—George Harold, who married Dora Mumford; Raymond, who married Lena Gantz; Carrie M., and Joseph G., living at home. Mr. Schmidt and family are leading members of the Lutheran Church at Brandt, with which he united when he was sixteen years of age. He is an elder and has always taken a deep interest in the Sunday-school, teaching a class, and for eighteen years served as superintendent. He belongs to the Masonic lodge at

New Carlisle. In politics a stanch Democrat, he has frequently been elected to public office, has served as treasurer of Bethel Township and for eight years was a member of the Board of Education.

CHARLES W. TOBEY, proprietor of the Tobey Drug Store at Troy, Ohio, is a man of state-wide reputation in his profession and has long been prominent in connection with the affairs and interests of his home city. He was born in Dayton, Ohio, in 1855, and is a son of Nathaniel Tobey, who is well remembered as one of the foremost men of Troy.

Nathaniel Tobey was for many years head of the drug firm of N. Tobey & Son, and was financially interested in various enterprises and manufacturing plants of the city. He was one time president of the Troy Business Men's Association, and also served in the City Council. His death occurred in 1903.

Charles W. Tobey received his early education in the public schools of Dayton and Troy, his parents moving to the latter place when he was ten years of age. He received a careful education as an analytical chemist, being graduated from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy in 1876. He immediately thereafter embarked in the drug business in partnership with his father, they at that time purchasing the store of E. F. Rinehart, in Troy. The firm of N. Tobey & Son continued with uninterrupted success until the death of Nathaniel Tobey in 1903, since which time the name of the establishment has been the Tobey Drug Store. Mr. Tobey has always identified himself with the leading interests of the city and county. He was one of the founders of the Ohio Pharmaceutical Association, of which he was chairman of the first executive committee; he was the first delegate of that body to the American Pharmaceutical Association, and was at one time president of the organization. He also was the first delegate to the National Retail Druggists' Association. He was twice appointed to the Ohio State board of examiners for pharmacists, and is serving his second term as president of same. He was one of the original promoters of the Island Outing Club.

In 1879 Mr. Tobey was united in marriage with Miss Ellie R. Reed, a daughter of Browning Reed, of Troy. Fraternally, he is a charter member of Troy Lodge, Knights of Pythias; and is affiliated with Blue Lodge, F. & A. M., and the Knights Templar.

ISAAC DUNRIDER, township trustee and representative citizen of Bethel Township, where he manages a farm of eighty acres for his mother, was born in Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio, January 12, 1855, and is a son of John and Sarah (Karns) Dunrider.

John Dunrider was born in Germany and died in Bethel Township, Miami County, June 21, 1885. When he emigrated to America he landed in Maryland and from there made his way to Dayton, Ohio, and shortly afterward accompanied Abraham Studebaker to Bethel Township, Miami County. He worked as a farm hand for one year with Mr. Studebaker and for two years with the latter's brother, Michael. After his marriage he settled first in Bethel Township, and then moved to near Tippecanoe City, remaining on that farm for five years. He then moved to a farm near Casstown for five years more, after which he bought a farm of 160 acres situated in Section 15, just north of the one now owned by his widow. It was on that farm that he died and his burial was in the Hickory Grove Cemetery. He was a highly respected man and was a worthy member of the Brethren Church. His widow survives, after the death of her husband, purchasing her present well improved farm in Bethel Township, from G. Heltzer.

John Dunrider was married April 2, 1854, to Miss Sarah Karns, a daughter of John Karns, and they had the following children: Isaac; Catherine, who married Korah Shafford; Lydia, who married George E. Beathley; an infant, with Samuel and Mary, all three deceased; John, who married Clara Arnold; G. W., who resides in Bethel Township; Sarah, who married P. P. Peters, of California; and Emma M., who married I. J. Boone.

Isaac Dunrider in his boyhood attended the district schools, which were situated near Tippecanoe City, at Casstown and at Hickory Grove, after which he took up the duties on the farm and gave his father assistance as long as the latter lived. Since then he has done the same for his mother, cultivating and improving her land and attending to all business matters for her. The present buildings were standing when she took possession, but he has remodeled them and under his management the whole place presents a fine appearance. Mr. Dunrider is a Democrat in politics and he takes some interest in township affairs and for eleven years has served as township trustee.

C. M. HUNT, who is doing a large business in farm implements at Troy, is a representative citizen and a member of the Troy Business Men's Association. He was born in 1868, in Darke County, Ohio, where he passed his early years on a farm and received his education in the public schools. He is a son of Ralph and Lydia (Walker) Hunt, both of whom were born in Ohio. Mr. Hunt's grandparents came from Virginia to Ohio and were among the pioneer settlers here, building their home in the woods. When Ralph Hunt married he also built a cabin in the woods. He was three times married. The subject of this sketch has one brother, James Aldis; four half brothers—Harvey, Abraham, Theodore and Arlistus; one sister, Almeda, and one half sister, Phebe Jane.

After retiring from farming Mr. Hunt was engaged in the butchering business at Laura, Miami County, for some years, later was in the grocery line at Spring Valley and for four years was in the hardware and farm implement business at Xenia prior to coming to Troy in 1904. Mr. Hunt is established at No. 11 North Market Street, where he carries a large stock of all kinds of farm implements, including wagons and buggies.

In 1887 Mr. Hunt was married to Miss Elvira Wright, of Darke County, Ohio, and they have five children, namely: Myrtle Viola, who is the wife of Earl McDonald, of Xenia, Ohio, and has two children, Jaunita and Charles; Hiram and Harry, both of whom assist their father in his business; and Robert and Dewey, who attend school. Mr. and Mrs. Hunt are members of the Christian Church. He is a man of social nature and is identified with the Odd Fellows, the Elks, the Knights of Pythias, and Franklin Lodge No. 14, F. and A. M.

LILLIE MAHALA SENOUR

JOHN GAHAGAN SENOUR, M.D.

JOHN GAHAGAN SENOUR, M. D., was born in Troy, Ohio, July 4, 1855, and died April 21, 1904. His father, William Senour, was a native of Kentucky; his mother, Clara Maria Gahagan, a native of Troy. They were united in marriage in 1854. Two children—John Gahagan and Lillie Mahala—were born to this union. The latter married Mr. Frank Edwards, of Chicago, in 1879, and they resided there until her death, which occurred in 1884.

In 1865 Dr. Senour's mother was married to Mr. Frank L. Horter, who died in 1888. Mother Horter died in 1901. He was of pioneer stock and a man greatly beloved by all the members of the family.

Dr. Senour acquired his preliminary education in the Troy schools, after which, in 1873, he entered the drug store of Dr. Horace Coleman. He commenced the study of medicine two years later under Dr. Joseph Green, of Troy. Having secured a good fundamental knowledge of medicine, he attended the Ohio Medical College at Cincinnati, and was subsequently graduated from the Bellevue Medical College at New York City. He at once returned to Troy, purchased the home and office of Dr. Green, corner of Franklin and Walnut Streets, with whom he had studied, and commenced the practice of medicine, April 18, 1879.

On December 11, 1879, the Doctor was united in marriage with Miss Sadie L. Ross, daughter of John Wilson and Frances Elizabeth Ross, at the family residence, corner of Franklin and Walnut Streets. To them two daughters were born—Lillie Mahala and Laura Beall. The former's span of life was brief, as she passed away at the early age of fifteen years when in the dawn of lovely womanhood. Of a quick, responsive mind and sweet, lovable disposition, she was a prime favorite with all, old and young alike, and her untimely departure cast a gloom over many hearts. Her memory lingers yet, like a precious fragrance that shall long abide, and those in whose hearts it is enshrined feel, with the poet, that

> " 'Tis better to have loved and lost
> Than never to have loved at all."

Dr. Senour was ever a close and thorough student in his profession and worked his way upwards to a commanding position in the front ranks of the medical fraternity. His efforts were blessed with success. In politics he was a Democrat, and he was elected coroner in 1884. In all life's relations he commanded the esteem and confidence of his fellow men.

Dr. Senour's mother, Clara Maria Gahagan, was a granddaughter of William Gahagan, who entered the land (now comprising the east half of Troy, from the public square to the Bradford Bridge) the original deed of which was signed by James Madison. The site of Troy at that time was known as Staunton. He came through the place; forded the river. The Indians shot his horse from under him, but as he was unharmed, and having despatches of importance in his possession, he walked all the way to Cincinnati. After fulfilling his commission he returned and purchased the land where he was so mercifully spared. He had three sons—Solomon, William and John. Clara Maria was the daughter of John Gahagan, from whom Dr. Senour was named.

JOHN WILSON ROSS (deceased) was prominent for many years among the upbuilders of Troy's commercial interests. He took a notable part in the development and improvement of the little city which he had elected to make his home. As a man of public spirit throughout his active career, this aid and influence could be counted upon in favor of any practical measures for the moral or material benefit of the community. He was born June 6, 1820, at Zanesville, Ohio, of Scotch-Irish parentage, his grandfather Ross coming direct from Scotland, the grandfather John Wilson direct from Ireland. He was about twelve years of age when his parents died in New Carlisle, this State. His early manhood was spent in that village, where he learned the tailor's trade under Mr. Moorhead, with whom he made his home. At the age of twenty-one he came to Troy, Miami County, in which city his subsequent life was spent.

Mr. Ross was married in 1846 to Frances Elizabeth Louthan, in the parlors of the Hatfield House, Troy, Ohio, which was then called the "Washington Inn," the family residence of her sister, Mrs. Sarah Hatfield. Mrs. Ross was a native of Winchester, Virginia, born September 2, 1826, and accompanied her parents to Miami County in childhood. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Ross removed to New Carlisle, Ohio. Five children were born into their household—Charles, Anna, Ella, Sadie and Howard. They subsequently—in 1867—came back to Troy to rear their children, and purchased the home now occupied by Mrs. Ross, who survives her husband, at No. 29 South Walnut Street, which has been her home for almost half a century. After his return to Troy Mr. Ross engaged in the nursery business, and for long afterwards the firm of J. W. Ross & Co. was the leading one in that line of industry in this section of Ohio.

Mrs. Ross has been an active woman all her life. She was one of the founders of the Altrurian Club of Troy. Her library is well filled with the best and choicest of standard works; her love for and knowledge of history made her a valuable club worker. She has always conducted her own business affairs, in which she has shown great ability and has in various other ways shown herself to be possessed of remarkable ability. After her husband's death, and when the children were all in homes of their own—between sixty and seventy years old, she took up Chautauqua work, was graduated and passed through the Golden Gate at Chautauqua in the class of 1886. Mr. and Mrs. Ross were ideal parents; the love and welfare of the home was their mutual abiding thought. The following is a brief record of their children: Charles, the first-born, who died in June, 1908—known as a loving, loyal, devoted son, brother, husband, father and friend—married Seba Wagner, one of Troy's sweet singers, in 1883, and they had five children—J. Wilson, Harriet, George, Howard and Anna. To their home in 1902 a crushing sorrow came in the drowning of their son George. The grandson, J. Wilson Ross, named after the subject of this sketch, is now one of the leading young men of Troy, both as regards business and social activities. He is employed as cashier by the Hobart Electric Manufacturing Company, the leading industry of Troy, and is well known and highly esteemed for his sterling qualities.

Anna Ross was married in 1872 to F.

MRS. FRANCES ELIZABETH ROSS

JOHN WILSON ROSS

P. Brechbill, who died in 1898. He was a prominent groceryman of Troy. She has a daughter, Frances P., who is the wife of John K. De Freese, assistant cashier of the Troy National Bank.

Ella Ross was married in 1876 to Dr. W. A. R. Tenney, now of Cincinnati, Ohio. She has three children—Wilson Ross, well known in the newspaper world; Charles, a promising young lawyer, now in the Philippines; and Helen.

Sadie was married in 1879 to Dr. John Gahagan Senour, by whom she has had two children—Lillie Mahala and Laura Beall.

Howard is single and resides in Montana.

The subject of this sketch was an old-time Democrat and a man of sturdy virtues. Although not a member of the Presbyterian Church, he was one of its most ardent supporters, working untiringly for the good of the church in every possible way. He was both a Mason and an Odd Fellow. His loyalty to Troy was evident in a marked degree; never failing to stand for the business interests of the different mercantile enterprises, expressing himself at all times to the effect that loyalty in patronizing home trade and allowing home merchants to make the profit by ordering through them, was certainly the most substantial way to show one's loyalty to one's home town.

E. F. SAYERS, one of Troy's most esteemed retired citizens, residing in his pleasant home at No. 318 Lincoln Avenue, is a member of one of the old pioneer families of Miami County. He was born September 23, 1831, in Elizabeth Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Thomas Jefferson and a grandson of Thomas Sayers.

Grandfather Thomas Sayers was one of the pioneering Pennsylvanians who came to Staunton Township, Miami County, in 1807, taking up 160 acres of Government land. Until July, 1908, this land remained continuously in the possession of the Sayers family. Thomas Jefferson Sayers was born in October, 1808. Both father and grandfather were men of local importance, serving as justices of the peace and taking an active part in the material development of this section.

E. F. Sayers has spent his entire life in Miami County with the exception of four years, from 1880 until 1884, when he resided in Lee County, Illinois. He attended the district schools and became a practical farmer on the homestead, continuing his agricultural activities until August, 1893, when he moved to Troy. He has served occasionally in public office, for six years being a member of the Board of Infirmary Directors, but has never sought political honors. As a stockholder he is interested in several business enterprises and is one of the directors of the Troy National Bank.

In 1857 Mr. Sayers was married to Miss Caroline French, a native of Kosciusko County, Indiana, who died in 1878. Five children were born to that marriage, namely: Martha A., who married Horatio Klyne, of Troy; Carrie, who is now deceased; Altezera, who married Theodore Rodgers, of Miami County; Maggie, who married C. D. Free, of Spring Creek Township, Miami County; and Harry Lincoln, who is a resident of Miami County. In 1880 Mr. Sayers was married (second) to Miss Catherine Knight, of Champaign

County, Ohio. Mr. Sayers is a leading member of the Baptist Church at Troy, being a member of the Board of Trustees and a deacon.

JOHN M. HEFFNER, general farmer and tobacco grower, resides on a tract of thirty-one acres of land located on the Brandt and Addison Turnpike Road, in Section 14, Bethel Township, and also owns 67 acres of the old Bethel Township homestead. He was born August 25, 1856, near Brandt, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Henry and Margaret (Hawn) Heffner.

The pioneer of the Heffner family was the grandfather, Michael Heffner, who came with his wife from Maryland, the journey being made over the mountains in great covered wagons. He settled in Bethel Township and built his house, one of brick, in which he conducted also a general store, and it is one of the oldest landmarks in Brandt, where a number of houses stand on what was once his farm. He was a charter member of the Lutheran Church at Brandt and undoubtedly was one of the town's most useful and progressive men. In politics he was a stanch Democrat. He married Elizabeth Fry and they had the following children: Edward, Henry, Joseph, Michael, David, Myra, Catherine, Harriet, Lydia Ann, Washington, John, Thomas, Betsey, Ezra, Daniel, Elizabeth and Jane.

Henry Heffner, father of John M., attended the Sheets school when he was a boy and then assisted his father on the home place until his own marriage, after which he settled in Section 17, on Honey Creek, where he lived for several years, moving then to the Dimmitt farm and then to a farm of 124 acres one and one-half miles west of Brandt. He took possession of that farm in 1855 and remained on it until his death. He was a Democrat in his political views and served as constable for several terms. He was a member of the Lutheran Church and was one of the early members of the Masonic fraternity at Brandt. He married Margaret Hawn, who died November 28, 1890, whom he survived until August 4, 1904. They had eight children, namely: Libeon, unmarried; Jane, wife of Thomas Ginn; Rebecca, wife of Samuel Crider; John M.; George, unmarried; Isaac, who married Emma Kew; Matilda, who married George Parson; and Jacob.

John M. Heffner has spent his life in Miami County and since leaving school has devoted himself to quiet pursuits. After his marriage he settled on his grandfather's farm for about four years and then purchased a place of his own in Brandt, on which he lived for sixteen years, for eight years of this time operating a well drill. When he retired from Brandt he settled on his present place and has been engaged in general farming and tobacco growing, giving the larger part of his attention to the latter. He has put all his buildings into good shape and has enough warehouse room to take care of a large tobacco crop.

On December 22, 1881, Mr. Heffner was married to Miss Amanda L. Maugans, a daughter of John and Mary Maugans, and they have had four children, as follows: Anna M., who is now deceased, married Ray Mann and their infant child is also deceased; Jacob; Harrison F., who was married October 18, 1909, to Ada May Cullars, a daughter of Jerome and Nora

Cullars; and John Edward, who resides at home. Mr. Heffner is a member of the Brethren Church at Hickory Grove. He casts his vote with the Democratic party.

THOMAS CALVIN DAVIS, whose excellent farm of eighty-eight acres is situated on the southwest corner of Section 7, Elizabeth Township, three miles northwest of New Carlisle, was born in Elizabeth Township, Miami County, Ohio, May 12, 1856, and is a son of Stephen and Eleanor (Thompson) Davis.

Stephen Davis was born in Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio, where he lived until after his marriage, when he moved to Elizabeth Township and later to Illinois. He subsequently returned to Elizabeth Township and bought the present farm of eighty-eight acres, on which he died, in 1872. He was a worthy man in every relation of life. In politics he was a Democrat and served in township offices, for many years being a member of the School Board. He married Eleanor Thompson, a daughter of Mark and Rebecca Thompson, former owners of the farm under consideration. To this marriage two children were born—Martha Ann and Thomas Calvin. The mother died in January, 1906, and she was buried by the side of her husband in Saylor's Cemetery.

Thomas Calvin Davis attended school until he was twelve years old but from the age of fourteen he has been farming for himself on his present property, which he has placed in fine condition. He had some clearing to complete and put down about 200 rods of tiling and also erected all the present substantial buildings. Each year his farm has grown more valuable. He takes only a good citizen's interest in politics and casts his vote for candidates of the Democratic party.

JOHN A. McCURDY, an ex-treasurer of Miami County, Ohio, has been a prominent resident of Troy since 1874. Farming was for many years his principal occupation, and he is owner of the old John Scott farm of 320 acres and an additional tract of eighty acres in Elizabeth Township. His residence is at 304 W. Main Street, and he has a comfortable home. Mr. McCurdy was born near Casstown, Miami County, in 1841, and is a son of James and Mary (McDonald) McCurdy. His father was born in Ireland and was young when he moved to Montreal, Canada, from whence in 1832 he came to Miami County, Ohio. Here he was married to Mary McDonald, who was a native of South Carolina.

John A. McCurdy was a child when his parents moved from Staunton Township to a farm in Concord Township, four miles west of Troy, and there he was reared to maturity. When a young man he worked out by the month as a farm hand, and being ambitious and industrious looked forward to better things. He became a citizen of Troy in 1874, and after his marriage in 1879 was for several years engaged in the nursery business there with good success. He also for a time was interested in the Troy Buggy Works. He early in life took a deep interest in public affairs and politics, and was a stanch Democrat until the Civil War. He then became a stanch Republican and was twice elected to the office of county treasurer, serving from 1875 until 1879. In 1897 he was honored by the party with election to the office of representative to the State Legislature, and capably served two terms in that office. In 1879 Mr. McCurdy was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Scott, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Sproul) Scott, of Miami County. Fraternally he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He served one year in the Union Army, late during the Civil War, and is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

ELMER E. THOMSON is one of the foremost business men of the City of Troy, in which he has lived all his days. The furniture and undertaking business, of which he is the head, is extensive, its patronage coming from all parts of Miami County. Mr. Thomson has always interested himself in the affairs of the community in a progressive and public-spirited way, and has frequently been called upon to serve in various official capacities. The family name has long been known to the people here, and his father, Joel T. Thomson, was equally prominent in affairs.

Joel T. Thomson was born in Troy, Ohio, in 1819, and was a son of Andrew and Catherine (Tullis) Thomson. His father was born in Virginia and about the beginning of the nineteenth century came with his parents to Miami County. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, leaving a wife and two small children to go to the front. Upon his return he soon after moved to Indiana, where he remained three years. He then returned to Troy, and on the day following passed away. Joel T. Thomson being very young at his father's death and the care of his mother devolving upon him, he was bound out for five years to learn the trade of cabinet maker. After two and a half years' apprenticeship, he bought his unexpired time and went to Cincinnati, where he completed his trade. He returned to Troy in 1840, and almost immediately took a forward position in the ranks of business men, which he maintained during his long and useful life. He engaged in cabinet making and gave employment to a number of men; in 1861, he announced to his workmen that he would close shop and enlist in the defense of his country. Inspired by his enthusiasm and patriotism, they at once determined to enter the service and prevailed upon him to remain at home and look after those dedendent upon him. His men went to the front and he closed up the cabinet making plant and embarked in the undertaking business. He was immensely popular with the soldiery, as is attested by the fact that of the eighty-one who died while in the army and were brought home for burial, seventy-eight were carried to their final resting place by him. He was a big-hearted, liberal-minded man, and he enjoyed the unbounded confidence and esteem of all who knew him. His death in 1900 was mourned by the people throughout the county.

Elmer E. Thomson was born in Troy, March 8, 1862, and was reared in that city. He attended the graded schools and was graduated from Troy High School, after which he studied medicine two years under Doctor Green. He attended Columbus Medical College one term, and Starling Medical College a like period, but gave up his preparation for that profession for business reasons. He entered into partnership with his father in the furniture and undertaking business, and the firm established an enviable prestige. In 1900 the subject of this record became the sole proprietor of the establishment and has continued it with uninterrupted success. He also established a branch store at Addison, and is partner in an undertaking business at Pleasant Hill. He and his father were originators of arterial embalming, a system which has been much followed. Mr. Thomson has a number of diplomas as an embalmer. He takes an active interest in politics, and has served as infirmary director of the county, member of the Board of Health of Troy, and as sealer of weights and measures of Troy.

In 1888 Mr. Thomson was married to Carrie J. Riley, who was born in Troy and was for some years a teacher in the schools. They have a son, Clifford Thomson. Religiously, they are members of the Presbyterian church. He is a Past Exalted Ruler of the Elks; Past Worthy President of the Order of Eagles, of which he is also treasurer; a member of the board of trustees of the Modern Woodmen; Past Chief of Knights of the Golden Eagle; and Past Sachem of the Improved Order of Red Men. He is also a trustee of the Order of Elks, and is president of the Troy Business Men's Association.

WILLIAM BALDWIN, one of Bethel Township's most respected citizens, who now lives retired on his valuable farm of 144 acres, which lies in Sections 30 and 36, was born October 7, 1833, at Gettysburg, Adams County, Penna. His father was William Baldwin and his grandfather was Thomas Baldwin.

Thomas Baldwin was born in England and when he came to America, settled in Adams County, Penna., and took part in the Revolutionary War, serving for a long time but escaping all injury. His tombstone, as well as that of his wife, may be found in the old Adams County Cemetery. They had three children: William, Rebecca and Jennie.

William Baldwin spent his whole life in Adams County, Penna., and was a general farmer there. He lived to be seventy-seven years of age. He married Elizabeth Crum, daughter of Peter Crum, and she died in 1840. They had six children, namely: Thomas, John, Mary, Samuel, Peter and William. They were consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and were worthy in every relation of life.

William Baldwin, who bears his father's name, alternated through boyhood and youth in attending school and helping on the home farm. When twenty-one years old he went to Franklin County and spent about six years working by the month on different farms, and then reached Miami County and worked for two years in Elizabeth Township. From there he next went to Indiana, where he was engaged in farm work for thirteen years and during this time was married. For six years after marriage he resided in Richmond, Indiana; from there went to near Indianapolis and later returned to Miami County, where he purchased his present farm of 144 acres. When he took possession he found the place run down and in need of much improving, and all this he remedied in a few years, enriching the land and carefully looking after its cultivation and either building or remodeling all the farm structures. For some ten years Mr. Baldwin has lived retired from active farm labor. Living within two miles of Tippecanoe City, he finds plenty of interests to occupy his time whenever overlooking the farm becomes monotonous.

On December 17, 1862, Mr. Baldwin was married to Miss Emily Chatteman, a daughter of Charles Chatteman, and they have a family of seven children: Elwood, Samuel, Harry, William, Annie, Cora and Effie. In his political views, Mr. Baldwin is a Republican. He has always taken an interest in public affairs in a general way, but he has never consented to hold office.

JACOB KRAYER, who is engaged in the grocery business at No. 111 East Main Street, Troy, and is one of the representative citizens, was born in Germany, in 1853, and obtained his education in the excellent schools of his native land. When sixteen years of age, Jacob Krayer came to America, locating first at Piqua, Ohio, where he learned the cigarmaking trade, at which he worked for two years, after which he came to Troy and entered his brother's grocery store. He remained a clerk for William Krayer from 1871 until 1880, when he was admitted to partnership, under the firm style of Krayer Bros., which continued until 1886. In July of that year he entered into business for himself, having erected his present building for that purpose, and here he has carried on a most satisfactory enterprise ever since. He keeps on hand a large and varied stock of both staple and fancy groceries and maintains the high standard of excellence, which has been one of the foundation stones of his success.

In 1880 Mr. Krayer was married to Miss Emma Hartmann, who was born at Sidney, in Shelby County, but was reared at Troy. Mr. and Mrs. Krayer have six children, as follows: Anna, Frederick, Augusta, Walter, Marie and Emma. Frederick assists his father in the store and is receiving excellent practical training for business. Mr. Krayer and family are members of the German Lutheran Church.

S. S. MAKEPEACE, for the past thirty years a resident of Troy, where he is a prominent grain dealer and proprietor of the Troy Feed Mills, on West Main Street, near the city limits, was born December 12, 1862, in Madison County, Indiana.

Mr. Makepeace secured a good common school education and was seventeen years of age when he left his native place and came to Troy. He had learned the milling business prior to this, in his own State, and after reaching Troy entered the employ of I. N. Hoagland and worked for two years in his flour mill. He then made a short trip to Texas, but not finding business prospects encouraging, he turned North and settled at Cumberland, Ohio, where he was employed in a flour mill for two more years. From there Mr. Makepeace went to San Diego, California, and for some six years was engaged in a mercantile business, after which he returned to Troy and was engaged in a tile and brick manufacturing business until October, 1908, when he bought the present feed mill, which he has operated ever since. Mr. Makepeace owns a valuable farm of fifty acres in Miami County. He has been a very active and useful citizen and has served on the City Council. In 1900 Mr. Makepeace was married to Miss Lizzie Howell, of Cumberland, Ohio, and they have one daughter, Catherine. He is a Royal Arch Mason and is also a member of the Order of Eagles.

REV. JACOB COPPOCK, a minister of the Brethren Church, residing on his farm of 160 acres, which is situated in Section 22, Bethel Township, Miami County, was born in Monroe Township, Miami County, Ohio, August 8, 1844. His parents were Samuel and Delany (Blickenstaff) Coppock. The Coppock family came originally from England and its early religious association was with the Quakers.

Samuel Coppock, father of Jacob, was born in Monroe Township, Miami County, Ohio, in 1817, and spent almost all his life on his farm there, his death occurring March 13, 1903, his widow surviving him but a few years. They both were interred in Maple Hill Cemetery at Tippecanoe City. Late in life he became a minister in the Brethren Church. He married a daughter of Jacob Blickenstaff, and they had six children, as follows: Moses A., who married Isabel Iddings; Jacob, our subject; John W., who married Mary C. Hickes; Mary, who is the widow of A. G. Martindale; Elias, who married (first) Elizabeth Wells, and (second) Nancy Horst; and Elizabeth, who married M. P. Idemiller.

Rev. Jacob Coppock attended the Pearson District School on the Pearson farm, one mile west of Tippecanoe City, in his boyhood and afterward assisted his father on the home place. After his marriage, in 1868, he settled first near Tippecanoe City and then located on his present farm, on which his wife was born. It contains 160 acres and is managed by the sons-in-law, Mr. Coppock giving all his time to his work as a minister, having charge of three churches, with a membership of 500 individuals. From early youth his mind was directed into serious channels and since October, 1881, he has been an accepted minister. He is a well informed man and one who is particularly well fitted to fill the office that has been bestowed on him. He gives all his time and all his energies to his people and they, in turn, respect and love him.

Mr. Coppock married in Miami County, on January 16, 1868, Susan Studebaker, the estimable daughter of S. S. and Nancy Studebaker, and they have six children, as follows: Mary Effie, who married H. B. Landis; Nancy May, who married J. S. Flory; Nettie Delany, who married Sumner Senseman; Fern, who resides at home; and a twin of Fern and another babe died in infancy. Mr. Coppock has taken much interest in educational matters, affording his children excellent advantages and giving service on the School Board aggregating twelve years. He is in sympathy with the principles of the Republican party.

The following is a history of Hickory Grove Church, written by Mr. Coppock:

HICKORY GROVE CHURCH, MIAMI COUNTY, OHIO.

From the year 1827 the territory now known as Donnel's Creek, Lost Creek and Hickory Grove were one organization presided over by Elder Christian Frantz. In the part now called Hickory Grove Isaac Darst was a minister in the second degree and John Studebaker, deacon; in all about twenty-five members. In 1830 Henry Harshbarger, David Landis, deacons, and Isaac Karns, elder, moved in. Then what is now Hickory Grove church was organized with about forty members under the care of Isaac Karns.

In the fall of 1832 Isaac Darst died. In 1833 John Studebaker died. Soon after Abraham Studebaker was elected deacon. In 1835 Henry Harshbarger moved out and David Landis was elected to the ministry. In 1836 David Shelabarger, Adam Stinebarger and Henry Rubsom, ministers in the second degree, moved in, and Isaac Karns moved to Indiana. Shelabarger's certificate of membership contained in addition to the usual recommendation the staetment that he was sufficiently established to be ordained, but it had not been done for want of help, and though a novice he was ordained (which was the key to years' trouble in the church).

In 1837 James Ward and Daniel Arnold were elected deacons. Ward at this time insisted on the ordination of Darst, so that their children could be married in English. Some time later Ward moved out. About 1849 the interest in the good cause grew so low that for a time there were no regular preaching services held, though there were three resident ministers; but by the efforts of David Bowman, John Darst and Peter Nead the work was again established, David Shelabarger being in charge.

In 1853 David Landis and David Shelabarger moved out, and Joseph Arnold and Jacob Snell were elected deacons. David Studebaker, a minister in the second degree, moved in. He proved a minister of great influence, and being dead yet speaketh. Now there were about eighty members. In 1855 the present house of worship was built. Prior to that time services were held in private homes. In 1856 Abraham Studebaker died. In 1858 Joseph Arnold was elected to the ministry, S. S. Studebaker deacon, and Henry Rubsom and Adam Stinebarger ordained. From the time David Shelabarger moved out until the above ordination the church was under the care of Elder John Frantz, of Donnel's Creek.

In 1860 John Crist was elected to the ministry and Samuel Coppock and Jacob Frantz, deacons. In 1861 Jesse Studebaker, minister in second degree, moved in. He remained three years. In 1862 John Crist was advanced to the second degree, and soon moved to Illinois. In 1863 G. W. Studebaker moved in and labored here for two years, then moved to Indiana. In this time the death of David Studebaker occurred, which was deeply lamented. There were now one hundred members.

About this time (1865) Rubsom and Stinebarger were relieved of their ministry by a committee from Annual Meeting and H. D. Davy and Abraham Flory placed in charge; Flory remained in charge until the division of '81. In 1866 Samuel Coppock was elected minister, Jacob Hawier and John Filburn, deacons. In 1872 Isaac Studebaker, minister in second degree, moved in. In 1873 O. F. Yount was called to the ministry and labored here until 1876. The Middle District was formed; he and Samuel Coppock were living in that territory. In 1879 Jos. Arnold was ordained and Jacob Coppock and D. S. Filburn were elected deacons. In 1880 Henry Gump was called to the ministry and Harrison Shull, a deacon, moved in.

In 1881 the memorable divide took from us about thirty members, including Elder Flory, our minister, and three deacons, leaving the church with Henry Gump, minister and two deacons; in all about one hundred members. The church now called Elder John Smith to take charge. The experiences had in the division were such that the church was knit together with a very strong feeling of love that, barring a few little incidents along the way, exists today to a very great degree.

In 1881 Jacob Coppock was called to the ministry and Henry Gump advanced to the second degree.

In 1882 the first series of meetings was held by the assistance of I. J. Rosenberger. The meetings were held with many fears on the part of some and deep anxiety on the part of others; they resulted in twenty-eight accessions and greatly confirmed the members. In 1885 D. S. Filburn was called to the ministry and Jacob Denlinger and John Tanreuther were elected deacons, and after a short service in their official capacity they both went to their reward. In 1886 Henry Gump was ordained and Jacob Snell elected deacon. In 1891 Samuel Studebaker, Jr., and Geo. Zimmerman were called to the deaconship. In 1893 Samuel Gump was called to the ministry.

The official board now stands: ministers, Henry Gump, Jacob Coppock, D. S. Filburn and Samuel Gump; deacons, Jacob Hawver, Jacob Snell, George Zimmerman and Samuel Studebaker. There are now about 150 members. During this time there have been two committees from Annual Meeting to settle difficulties. We now have three points of regular preaching, with a fair attendance and interest. At no period in the history of the church was there a greater per cent of the Brethren's children in the church than now.

THOMAS JEFFERSON PENCE, V. S., who has been a resident of Troy for a period covering quite twenty-two years, has devoted himself almost exclusively to his profession during this time and is well known all over the county. He was born in Lost Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, where he still owns two excellent farms, February 24, 1847, and is a son of James T. Pence and Nancy (Shidler) Pence. The late James T. Pence was born in 1822, in Warren County, Ohio, and came to Miami County in the early thirties. He was a carpenter by trade and also engaged in farming. His death took place February 24, 1883. The mother survived many years, dying April 21, 1908, aged eighty-eight years, three months and five days.

T. J. Pence was educated in the district schools and afterward engaged in farming. For some forty years he has been a veterinary surgeon and since coming to Troy has given his entire attention to this profession, in which he has been more than usually successful. Dr. Pence was married March 15, 1892, to Miss Eliza Julian Roach, who is a daughter of Revel Roach, who was a prominent farmer in Clark County, Ohio, where Mrs. Pence was born and reared. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church at Troy.

W. H. ALEXANDER, deceased, who bore an honorable record for service in the Union Army during the Civil War, was a prominent retired citizen of Troy and in former years was actively identified with the affairs of Miami County. He served two terms as county commissioner, held various township offices, and for eight years was treasurer of the Miami County Fair Board. His death took place March 2, 1909, when he was in his sixty-fifth year.

Mr. Alexander was a direct descendant of one of the earliest settlers of Miami County, and was born in Troy, August 6, 1844. His early life was passed on the farm and he obtained a good educational training. In answer to Lincoln's first call to arms, he was one of the first to respond, enlisting in Company H, Eleventh Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Drury. He was in the service for more than three years and participated in the following engagements: Cotton Mountain, Big Sewell, Bull Run, South Mountain, Antietam, Lookout Mountain, Smoke Gap, Rocky Face, and Resaca. He was wounded at Chickamaugua, but continued in the service until he was honorably discharged at Camp Dennison, Ohio, June 20, 1864.

W. H. Alexander was married March 16, 1862, while home on a furlough, to Miss Eliza Boone, and they became parents of the following children: Allie, wife of Jacob Deitzer, a farmer of Concord Township, Miami County; Lillie May, wife of M. H. Miller, of Troy, Ohio; Isaac G., paymaster for the Nickel Plate Railroad, with headquarters at Cleveland, Ohio; Carrie, wife of W. C. Elleman, of Union Township, Miami County; Mary, wife of O. C. Elleman, also of Union Township; Lulu, wife of P. H. Newman, of Miami County; and Eva Irene, wife of Charles Kelley, of Troy. Mrs. Alexander was called to her final rest in 1879. In 1885 Mr. Alexander formed a second union with Mary J. Curtis, and their comfortable home was at No. 739 West Main Street, in Troy. The subject of this sketch was formerly secretary of The Soldiers' Relief Association of Miami County, and a stockholder in the Troy National Bank. Fraternally he was a member of the Knights of Pythias, and of the Grand Army of the Republic. He was a man of wide acquaintance over the county, and was most highly esteemed.

CHARLES EMORT TROSTEL, a member of the board of trustees of Elizabeth Township, who resides on a valuable farm of 143 acres, situated in Section 26 and located on a cross road between the Tippecanoe City and Springfield Turnpike roads, was born July 8, 1872, at New Carlisle, Clark County, Ohio. His parents are Jacob A. and Jacob Anna (Peters) Trostel.

The father of Mr. Trostel was born near the historic city of Gettysburg, Penna., where he engaged in farming until he enlisted for service in the Civil War, in 1861. He remained in the army for more than three years and during this period was once seriously wounded. After his marriage he settled in Clark County, Ohio, where he worked as a teamster, a thresher and nurseryman and later retired to New Carlisle, where he is engaged in the furniture and undertaking business. He is a representative citizen and has always been identified in his political views with the Republican party. He married Jacob Anna Peters and five children were born to them, namely: Mary, Charles E., George, Margaret and Norris.

Charles E. Trostel was reared at New

Carlisle and lived at home until his marriage, in the meanwhile securing a good public school education. Following his marriage he settled first as a renter on his father-in-law's farm and later rented other farm, both north and west of Carlisle. He then removed to near Piqua, in Miami County, then to the Sproul farm, near Troy, and in 1907 came to the present place, known as the Pleasant Run Farm, which is owned by Mrs. Mary Link, of Troy. Mr. Trostel is an experienced and practical farmer and stockraiser and each season he feeds about fifty head of hogs and a large number of cattle.

Mr. Trostel has a very pleasant domestic circle. He married Miss Bessie Funderburg, a daughter of George and Martha Funderburg, who resided near New Carlisle, and they have six children: Sibyl, Erdine, Irvin, Wilson, Robert and Helen, five of them being bright students in the public schools.

Like his father, Mr. Trostel is a supporter of the Republican party. He has capably filled several township positions and for the past two years has been a trustee of Elizabeth Township. The farm is conveniently situated four miles northeast of Tippecanoe City.

J. B. McCOOLE, president of the City Council of Troy, Ohio, has been very prominently identified with the public affairs of this city during his residence of fifteen years here. He was born in 1855, near the village of Kessler, in Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of the late William McCoole.

William McCoole was born in 1833, in Miami County, Ohio. He was a veteran of the Civil War and his death was indirectly caused by an injury received during his three years of service. He was a member of Company B, Ninety-fourth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and his record is that of a brave and efficient soldier. In politics he was a radical Republican.

J. B. McCoole began to take care of himself when he was not over twelve of age, hiring out to farmers during the summer seasons, and during the winters attending the district school. By the time he was nineteen years old he was ready to teach and a very pleasant and profitable portion of his life was the period of eighteen years which he spent in educational work. He taught for six consecutive years in one district and has many friends there still. In 1893 Mr. McCoole went into the lumber business, for three years being with W. H. Francis, since which time he has been with a Mr. Crofoot. He has been a very active citizen and his civic worth has been recognized by his fellow citizens. He was elected to the City Council from the Third Ward, later was councilman-at-large and is now serving in his third year as president of the City Council. He has also been interested in State military matters, for eighteen years being a member of the Ohio National Guard, entering as a private and being advanced to the rank of captain of Company K, Third Regiment.

Mr. McCoole was married in April, 1878, to Miss Mary Lettie Van Tuyl, of Miami County, and they have one son, Edgar, who is with the Hobart Manufacturing Company of Troy. He married Miss Bertha Van Noy, of Troy, and they have one daughter, Ruth. Mr. and Mrs. McCoole are members of the Christian Church. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias, the

JACOB A. DAVY

Knights of the Golden Eagle, the Junior Order of the United American Mechanics, and Franklin Lodge of the Masons.

WILLIAM G. WILSON, county commissioner of Miami County and a substantial retired farmer residing at Troy, was born in Concord Township, Miami County, Ohio, in 1862, and is a son of the late John Wilson, who died in May, 1907, and a grandson of Robert Wilson. The latter came to Ohio from England and was a pioneer settler in Miami County, but died in advanced age in Shelby County.

William G. Wilson was reared and educated in Concord Township and for many years carried on extensive farming and stock raising in that section. In November, 1908, he moved to Troy. He has been a very active member of the Republican party for a long period, on many occasions proving his fealty and frequently gaining recognition in local circles. He is a member of the important party organization known as the County Central Committee, has served on the School Board in Concord Township, and in November, 1905, was first elected a county commissioner, approval being shown of his services by re-election to the office in November, 1908.

On March 3, 1883, Mr. Wilson was married to Miss Emeline Kerr, who was born and reared in Concord Township and is a daughter of William and Rachel Kerr. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have one daughter, Verna Oletha, who is a popular and successful teacher in the public schools of the county. Miss Wilson made a brilliant school record for herself, graduating from the Concord Township school when but thirteen years of age and subsequently from the Troy High School. Mr. Wilson is identified with the Elks and the Knights of Pythias at Troy.

JACOB A. DAVY, who for over twenty-five years has been engaged in the successful practice of law at Troy, Ohio, was born in Delaware County, Ohio, October 26, 1854, his parents being Henry D. and Catharine (Bosteter) Davy. He is of English ancestry, his paternal grandfather having emigrated from England to Philadelphia in 1706.

Henry D. Davy, the father, was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, in 1811, and at an early date entered the ministry, his duties in connection therewith taking him successively to various fields in this State. In 1868 he located on a farm in Elizabeth Township, Miami County, where he afterwards resided until his death, in September, 1895, at the age of eighty-four years. He was a minister of the German Baptist Church, and for twenty years was chairman of the executive committee and moderator of annual conference. He was united in marriage November 17, 1850, with Miss Catharine Bosteter, who was born near Frederick City, Maryland, in 1821, and who died in February, 1896. Ten children were born of this union, four of whom bore arms in the Union cause during the Civil War.

Jacob A. Davy was about seven years old when his parents moved, in 1861, to Mr. Vernon, Knox County, Ohio, and during their residence of seven years there he attended the public schools. He accompanied them on their removal to Miami County in 1868, and there attended the district schools during the winter months, when he could be spared from the work on the farm. He continued farming until August 19, 1879, when he went to Troy and began preparations for the legal profession under the preceptorship of Theodore Sullivan, who afterwards became circuit judge, and M. B. Barnhart, who later moved to Columbus and became police judge of that city. He subsequently attended the Cincinnati Law School, from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1881. In March, 1882, he opened an office for practice in the city of Troy, where he has since continued with uninterrupted success.

It is needless to say that Mr. Davy's present high position at the bar was not brought about without hard and persistent effort. At the outset he realized his own deficiencies with respect to preliminary education, and with determined energy he accordingly pursued a literary and scientific course, reciting regularly to a gentleman noted for his scholarly attainments. This training has been of incalculable benefit to him in his court work. Well grounded in the law and always thoroughly prepared in his cases, employing the best diction, with a convincing style and manner, he makes a favorable impression on court and jury, and has been successful beyond the average. He has a fine library of literary and legal lore, in the enjoyment of which he spends much of his time.

In the year 1900 Mr. Davy became a member of the law firm of Davy & Campbell, Mr. St. John becoming a third partner in the following year. On the subsequent election of Mr. Campbell as prosecuting attorney, that gentleman retired from the firm, which then became Davy & St. John. In 1907 Mr. St. John was appointed assistant probate judge, and accordingly severed his connection with the firm; but on account of the old style being well and favorably known to a large Eastern clientele, Mr. Davy has since retained it, though at the present time practicing alone. He has lately organized the National Law Collecting Company, incorporated with a capital stock of $10,000, of which he is president. Mr. Davy is an enthusiastic Republican in politics, and has spent much time and effort in bringing about party success in the county. In 1892 he was chairman of the Republican Central Committee and his activity brought out the full party strength in support of President Harrison, while nearly every other county in the State fell below.

Mr. Davy was joined in marriage, February 4, 1886, with Gertrude Edith Mitchell, who was born near Fletcher, Miami County, Ohio, in 1864, the Mitchell family having long been one of prominence in the county. Her father, John Mitchell, was born in Greene County, Pennsylvania, December 25, 1822, and at an early date became a resident of Miami County. He was a man of unusual ability, and accumulated a handsome competency, including 329 acres of land in the county. He was married at Fletcher in 1855, to Miss Henrietta Simmons, a daughter of William T. and Margaret Simmons, and two children were the offspring of this union—Mrs. Mary E. Spencer, of Piqua; and Gertrude E., wife of Jacob A. Davy. Mrs. Davy is a lady of educational attainments and musical accomplishments, being gifted with a soprano voice of good power and pleasing quality. She received voice culture under the instruction of Professor Blumenschine, of Dayton, and other prominent teachers. The family home is at No. 6 South Plum Street, in Troy.

GEORGE MUMFORD, one of Elizabeth Township's prosperous grain farmers, resides on his valuable farm of 140 acres, which is situated on the LeFever Turnpike road, in Section 16, Elizabeth Township, Miami County, Ohio, was born in Clark County, Ohio, March 31, 1852. His parents were George and Ruth Ann (Martin) Mumford.

George Mumford and wife were born in Maryland and came from there to Ohio, locating first in Clark County but subsequently removing to Miami County. He became the owner of a large amount of land, purchasing at different times tracts of 200 acres, of seventy-eight acres and of the 140 acres which is now owned by his son George. He was aged seventy years when he died. When he lived in Maryland he was a Whig in politics but later became a member of the Republican party. For thirty-three years he served as a school director and in all matters of moment in his neighborhood, his judgment was more or less consulted. He was considered a poor man when he came first to Miami County but he was very enterprising and possessed excellent business qualifications. He cleared about one-half of his land, building a drain ditch in which he used 1,000 rods of tiling, and put up all the farm structures now standing, these serving during his lifetime, although they have all been remodeled and improved by the present owner. The children of George and Ruth Ann Mumford were: Martha Josephine, Elizabeth, Harrison, Isaac, Maria, George, Melissa and Belle. The mother of this family died in June, 1888, having survived her husband from September, 1882.

George Mumford, Jr., who has served Elizabeth Township for fifteen years as a school director, obtained his own education in the Flinn school, near his home, after which he became his father's helper on the farm and remained at home with his parents and continues on the same farm on which he was reared from childhood. It is well drained, the Miami County ditch running north and south through it, and Mr. Mumford has so divided his land that each part of it returns a good income. He has an orchard of fifty trees, grows twenty-five acres of corn, the same of wheat and the same of oats each year, has fifteen acres in hay and the remainder of the land is in woods and pasture. He takes pride in the appearance of his buildings and keeps them repaired and painted, making everything around his home very presentable. He has a fine family also to enjoy life with, consisting of wife and four children. He was married December 23, 1883, to Miss Ellen Boswell, who is a daughter of George and Lavina Boswell, of Casstown, Miami County, and their family consists of three daughters and one son, namely: Blanche, Nora, Vernon and Ruth. Mrs. Mumford is a member of the McKendree Methodist Church of Elizabeth Township. He does not lay claim to being a politician but he is interested in all that concerns the welfare of his own neighborhood and of the country at large. He votes the Republican ticket.

JUSTUS DIEHL, for many years one of the substantial business men and a public-spirited citizen of Troy, Ohio, is now living in retirement in that city. He was prominently identified with the wagon-making industry as a member of the firm of Repholz and Diehl, and now rents the plant conducted by them to the son of his deceased partner.

Mr. Diehl was born in Germany October 1, 1839, and was about seventeen years of age when he came to the United States in 1857, locating in the city of Dayton. There he worked as a cabinet maker one year for a Mr. Boyer, but not liking the work he hired out for a year as a gardener. In 1859 he went to Sydney, Ohio, where he learned the trade of wagon maker with Jacob Piper, in whose employ he continued for eighteen months. In 1861 he went to Greenville, Ohio, and in February, 1864, enlisted for three years' service as a member of the Eighth Ohio Battery Light Artillery, and was later assigned with his battery to the Army of the Mississippi. He contracted the typhoid fever but remained in the service until August, 1865, when he was honorably discharged. Upon his return from the front, he worked at wagon making for a Mr. Miller, in the same shop in which he learned his trade in Sydney. In the spring of 1866, he moved to Troy, Ohio, and formed a partnership with Frank Emerett in the wagon making business. They established their business on West Main Street, and in a short time Mr. Diehl purchased the interest of his partner and continued the business there alone for several years. In 1879 he entered partnership with Mr. Repholz and started a shop at No. 401 East Main Street. Their business association continued with uninterrupted success until Mr. Repholz died. Mr. Diehl then, on account of failing health rented the plant to a son of his former partner, who has since continued it.

In 1867 Justus Diehl was married to Miss Mary Dunlap, who died in 1888, leaving five children: Charles Diehl, an electrician of ability, at Tippecanoe City; William Diehl, head engineer of the electric light plant of Lima, Ohio, with which he has been identified for a score of years; George Diehl, who also has been identified with the Lima Electric Light Plant for some twenty years, he and his brother beginning at that time as boys and working up to good and responsible positions; M. Lida Diehl, who lives in Tippecanoe City; and Elizabeth, wife of Henry Heiser, of Piqua, Ohio. Mr. Diehl, in 1891, formed a second marriage with Mrs. Catherine Shell, of Miami County. Religiously, he attends the Baptist Church in Troy, of which his wife is a member. Fraternally, he is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

PERRY H. MOYER, deputy sheriff of Miami County and county recorder elect, has been a resident of Troy for the past thirty years. He was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, November 20, 1843. Mr. Moyer was reared on a farm and obtained his education in the public schools of Montgomery County. He enlisted for service in the Civil War, in February, 1864, entering Company E, Ninety-third Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in which he continued until his honorable discharge on December 5, 1865. At the battle of New Hope Church, Georgia, during the Atlanta campaign, Mr. Moyer was so seriously wounded that he could no longer serve on the field, and he was then attached to the mustering-out office, with headquarters at Detroit, Michigan. For about four years after the close of the war, he followed farming and then engaged for some three years in the grocery business. Since coming to Troy he has been identified with various interests here, and on February 1, 1892, he was appointed deputy sheriff of Miami County. Mr. Moyer has proven himself an efficient public officer and his election, in November, 1908, as county recorder, is a signal mark of appreciation. He will assume the duties of the new office in September, 1909.

On April 30, 1868, Mr. Moyer was married to Miss Mary Jane Huiet, of Montgomery County, Ohio, and they have one daughter, Irma May, who, for seventeen years has been a valued teacher in the public schools of Troy. Mr. P. H. Moyer, with his wife and daughter, belongs to the Presbyterian Church. He is affiliated with the Odd Fellows and belongs to A. H. Coleman Post, Grand Army of the Republic, at Troy, of which he is now commander.

FRANK E. FREEMAN, nurseryman and farmer, residing on the valuable property of the Geo. Freeman heirs, consisting of 115 acres, which is situated in Section 25, on the National Turnpike Road, near Phoneton, Ohio, was born in Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio, June 28, 1862, and is a son of George Freeman and a grandson of Robert M. Freeman.

Robert M. Freeman came to Ohio from Pennsylvania, settling in Bethel Township, where he was a farmer all his life. He married Hannah Puterbaugh, a daughter of David and Mary Puterbaugh, and they reared ten children: David, Isaac, George, John, Daniel, Hannah, Elizabeth, Minnie, Henrietta and Priscilla.

George Freeman succeeded his father as a farmer and nurseryman in Bethel Township. He married Araminta D. Swindle, a daughter of John and Rebecca Swindle, and they have had the following children: Laura, who married R. W. Mitchell, who is principal of a High School in North Carolina; Frank E.; Harry W., deceased, who was formerly in the nursery business at Tadmor, Ohio, and married a daughter of John Benham; and Arthur H., who is connected with a lime and cement company at Chicago, Illinois, and who married Laura Emerson.

Frank E. Freeman first attended school in Bethel Township, later enjoyed four terms in the Normal School at Ada, Ohio, and still later took a commercial course in a business college in the State of New York. He then returned to the home farm, where he has continued in business ever since. He has cleared about four acres of land and devotes the larger part of the acreage to nursery plants, also raising some grain and hay. He is much interested in raising throughbred stock and the four colts that he raises annually might easily be registered for the race track, so excellent are their qualities. He has erected all the stock stables on the place and these are of modern construction, due regard having been paid to their sanitary conveniences, this being along modern lines of building. Mr. Freeman has additional business interests, being a stockholder of the Dye Fruit Company, which has its home office at Tippecanoe City, and a member of the board of directors.

On March 10, 1887, Mr. Freeman was married to Miss Margaret G. Belleman, a daughter of Henry and Eliza Belleman, and they have six children, namely: Charles H., who is a lieutenant in the Philippine Constabulary and at present is stationed at Manila, Philippine Islands; and

Roy W., Ralph Egbert, Lillian May, George Henry and Ruth Mahala. Mr. Freeman is a member of the Reformed Church, in which he is a deacon. In politics he is a Republican and formerly served as a member of the Miami County Agricultural Society. Formerly he was also identified with the local Grange. He is a Knight Templar Mason, a member of the Commandery at Troy, where he also belongs to the Elks.

W. E. LYTLE, a leading member of the Miami County bar and prosecuting attorney elect, was born in 1871, near Lancaster, Ohio.

Mr. Lytle passed his early life on a farm but his inclination lay more in the direction of a professional life. Like many other youths he found himself entirely dependant on his own efforts to secure the education he craved and, through many sacrifices, prepared himself for teaching and thus was enabled to spend three and a half years in the Ohio Normal University at Ada, in the literary and law departments of that institution. In June, 1900, Mr. Lytle received his degree from the university and was admitted to the bar and in September, 1901, he located for practice at Tippecanoe City, Miami County, since then earning his permit to practice in the Federal Courts and all the courts in the State. He was elected city solicitor in 1906, elected again in 1907, and served two and one-half years, resigning the office when he was elected to the still more responsible one of prosecuting attorney of Miami County, in November, 1908, the duties of which he will assume on January 4, 1909. In addition to paying attention to his large private practice, as well as his official duties, Mr. Lytle has interested himself in several business enterprises. He promoted and organized the Citizens' National Bank of Tippecanoe City, of which he is a director and attorney, and he was the chief promoter of the Tippecanoe Underwear Company, which is incorporated with a capital stock of $50,000. Of this company he is attorney and a member of the board of directors. Mr. Lytle is also concerned in valuable real estate lying in both Miami and Darke counties. He is a man of more than usual energy and enterprise and he possesses also the judgment which brings him success in his undertakings. This foresight and judgment will be valuable assets in the conduct of the office of prosecuting attorney, an office which no feebly endowed man could ever hope to satisfactorily fill at this day.

In 1893 Mr. Lytle was married to Miss Zella Rank, of Darke County. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and he is an official of the same and also of the Sunday School, having been a teacher for over twenty years. Politically he is a strong factor in the Republican party in this section and a hearty supporter of Republican policies. For the past fifteen years he has been an active member of the Order of Knights of Pythias and belongs also to the Junior Order of United American Mechanics.

H. J. WALKER, county surveyor of Miami County, Ohio, is one of the most capable and popular public officials of the county. He has been a resident of Troy for some nineteen years but he was born in Brown Township, Miami County, Ohio.

Josiah Walker, father of H. J. Walker,

was brought to Troy from Pennsylvania, when small, and a large part of his life was spent on his farm in Brown Township, which he left in 1889 and has resided at Troy ever since, where he is one of the respected and substantial citizens.

H. J. Walker was educated in the public schools of Troy and took special course of three years in the Ohio State University at Columbus, graduating as a civil engineer, and then took up railroad work in the Northwest, after which he came to Troy. He is interested in a number of local enterprises and has served as city engineer for about twelve years. In November, 1901, he was first elected county surveyor, was re-elected in November, 1904, and his term will not expire until September, 1909, when he will have served continuously in this office about eight years.

Mr. Walker is an active member of the Elks and the Knights of Pythias, and he also retains his connection with the Sigma Nu fraternity of the Columbus University and is a charter member of the alumni chapel of the society. He belongs also to the Troy Club. Mr. Walker was reared in the Presbyterian faith.

JOHN K. DE FREES, assistant cashier of the Troy National Bank and city treasurer of Troy, Ohio, was born in this city in 1878, and is a son of L. L. and a grandson of John W. De Frees. Both father and grandfather of Mr. De Frees were well known journalists. The grandfather, John W. De Frees, was the founder, proprietor and editor of the Miami Union, which he conducted for many years, and for a time he served as county auditor of Miami County. The father of Mr. De Frees early became associated with his father in newspaper work and on the death of John W. De Frees succeeded to the proprietorship of the Miami Union, which he successfully conducted until ill health compelled him to dispose of his interests.

John K. De Frees was reared and educated at Troy, and after graduating from the Troy High School he spent two years in the Ohio State University. Shortly after his return to Troy he entered the Troy National Bank as bookkeeper, served later four years as teller and since then has filled the office of assistant cashier. He has ever been an active and earnest citizen and in November, 1907, he was elected city treasurer, the duties of which office he fills with the same carefulness and conservatism that has made him valued in the financial institution with which he has so long been connected.

In June, 1903, Mr. De Frees was married to Miss Frances P. Brechbill, of Troy, and they have one daughter, Elizabeth. Mr. De Frees and wife are members of the First Presbyterian Church of Troy. He is a Royal Arch Mason and belongs also to the Troy and the Island Outing clubs.

CHARLES F. RANNELLS, city auditor of Troy, Ohio, of which place he has been a resident since 1885, was born at New Antioch, Clinton County, Ohio, in 1852. Mr. Rannells was educated in the public schools of his native place, later attended the Holbrooks School at Lebanon, Ohio, and still later took a commercial course at the Bryant & Stratton Business College, at Cincinnati. For some twelve years thereafter, Mr. Rannells taught school and after leaving the educational field he was bookkeeper for the firm of

Allen & Wheeler for a number of years and then embarked in a nursery business, conducting this enterprise until 1903, when he was first elected city auditor of Troy. Mr. Rannells is serving in his second term in this office, his re-election in 1907 indicating the confidence he enjoys among his fellow citizens. In the promotion of good government, Mr. Rannells has been an active citizen and has taken a hearty interest in public affairs.

In 1881 Mr. Rannells was married to Miss Nannie Cleland, of Martinsville, Ohio, and they have two sons, E. B. and C. W., both of whom are in the employ of the Edison Electrical Company, of Brooklyn, New York. Mr. Rannells is a thirty-second degree Mason and is a member of the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council and Commandery, at Troy, and of the Consistory and Shrine, at Dayton, Ohio.

HON. THOMAS M. CAMPBELL, formerly mayor of Troy, Ohio, of which city he has been a resident for some thirty years, is a leading member of the Miami County bar and is city solicitor, an office he has most acceptably filled on several occasions. He was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, in 1840.

Mr. Campbell attended the law school of the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, but otherwise he secured his education in the schools of Montgomery and Preble counties, Ohio. In 1861 he enlisted as a private in Company B, Seventy-first Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which he served for over three years of the great Civil War, receiving his honorable discharge at Nashville, Tennessee, December 3, 1864, having been promoted to first sergeant. Mr. Campbell survived all the usual dangers of army life and his record shows that he was never wounded, never sent to a hospital, and, what he is justly proud of, that he was never excused from duty. He participated in the battles of Shiloh, Jonesboro, Lovejoy Station, Georgia, and Franklin, Tennessee, together with many less important engagements.

In 1877 Mr. Campbell was admitted to the bar, and in the following year settled at Troy, subsequently being admitted to practice in the United States Courts. He is a member of the Miami County Bar Association. He has long been interested in local politics and in 1885 was elected city solicitor, serving in that capacity for two terms, and from 1892 to 1894, he was mayor of the city, and after the close of an excellent administration, he returned to private practice. In November, 1907, he was again brought forward by his party for the office of city solicitor, and was elected without opposition and is serving in that office at the present time.

In 1889 Mr. Campbell was married to Miss Clara E. Shilling, who died May 23, 1907, leaving one son, Carlton W., who is a student in Dennison University. Mr. Campbell is a member of the First Baptist Church of Troy, and one of its deacons. He is prominent in Masonry, being past master of Franklin Lodge, No. 14, F. & A. M.; past high priest of Franklin Chapter, and past eminent commander of Coleman Commandery, Knights Templar.

JOHN FISH, president of the Troy Tile and Brick Company, a successful manufacturing enterprise of Troy, was born in 1860, in Illinois, and in infancy was brought to Shelby County, Ohio, and when four years of age to Miami County, where he was reared and educated. Mr. Fish's boyhood was spent on a farm and he continued to engage in agricultural pursuits until 1900, when he came to Troy, where for two years he conducted the sprinkling business for the city and then purchased a feed mill, which he operated for four years, in the meanwhile preparing for his present enterprise. The Troy Tile and Brick Company was incorporated in 1894, by R. W. Crofoot and Mr. Fish owns a one-half interest and since his purchase has been president of the company, with his brother, Charles Fish, as secretary. The business is the manufacturing of tile and brick and they deal also in cement, coal and grain.

In 1885 Mr. Fish was married to Miss Jennie Hetzler and they have two children living: Roy, who is bookkeeper in the First National Bank of Troy; and Earl, who is a High School student. One child, Freddie, died at the age of five years. Mr. Fish and family belong to the Baptist Church. In politics Mr. Fish is a Republican and he has served four years as a member of the City Council, taking an active interest in promoting the welfare of this community. He has long been identified with the Odd Fellows and is filling the office of noble grand in the Troy lodge. He is one of the city's reputable and representative business men.

JAMES R. McCANDLISS, general farmer and tobacco grower, residing on his valuable estate of thirty-seven acres, which is situated in Section 29, Elizabeth Township, one mile southeast of Casstown, is a representative citizen of this section. He was born July 29, 1850, at Young's Mill, near Piqua, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of James and Mary (Abbott) McCandliss.

The McCandliss family is of Irish descent, but the grandfather, James McCandliss, was born in Pennsylvania. When he came to Ohio he brought his family over the Allegheny Mountains by wagon and settled first near Dayton and later near Piqua. He worked as a carpenter and also engaged in farming. In religious faith he was a Presbyterian and in his political sympathy a Whig. He died in 1878 and his burial was at Piqua. He married Nancy Hilands and they had the following children: John, Sarah, James, Mary, Nancy, Annie and Amos.

James McCandliss, Jr., father of James R., was born in Pennsylvania and accompanied his parents to Ohio in his childhood. He assisted his father on the home farm near Piqua until his own marriage and then engaged in milling, in 1859 moving to the old Sheets mill in Elizabeth Township and from there to Coalville, where he died September 25, 1897. His remains rest in the Casstown Cemetery. He married Mary Abbott, who still survives and resides with her daughter, Mrs. Rosser, at Troy. The following children were born to James and Mary McCandliss: John F., who lives in Staunton Township; James R.; Laura L., who is deceased; Nancy, who married Charles Rosser; Nellie, who married George Wolfe, and resides at New Carlisle; William; who married Mollie West, and is now deceased; Joseph, who is deceased; Isaac, who married Mattie, daughter of John Ross; Charles, who married Amy Emory; Crozier, who is unmarried and resides in California; Mabelle, who married Albert Carns; and an infant, deceased.

James R. McCandliss secured a good public school education, attending the Brown School near Piqua, the Edward School in Troy and later the Walnut Grove School in Elizabeth Township, after which he assisted his father until his own marriage in 1878. He then rented Andrew Sayers' farm, moved from there to the Coleman farm near Stillwater for two years and from there to a farm north of Troy, on which he remained for two years more, coming then to his present farm, which he rented at first and purchased in 1900. He engages in mixed farming and devotes four acres to tobacco. When he came here he found it profitable for a time to quarry stone on the farm, but has since abandoned that industry. He has a fine orchard of about forty trees, which he set out himself, and has done considerable improving on the place.

On November 1, 1878, Mr. McCandliss was married to Miss Priscilla F. Webb, a daughter of Lewis and Rebecca Webb. They are members of the Baptist Church at Casstown, with which he has been united for thirty years. Formerly he was an active member of the Grange and also of the Order of Red Men, but the only fraternal association he still continues to have interest in is the Casstown Lodge, No. 426, Odd Fellows, of which he has been a member for thirty-five years, having passed all the chairs and for the past twelve years having been a trustee. In politics, Mr. McCandliss is a Democrat and he has acceptably served his township in the office of supervisor, at different times.

LOSH O. HARBAUGH, attorney-at-law and a well known member of the Piqua bar, was born near Brandt, Miami County, Ohio, in 1874, and is a son of John C. Harbaugh.

John C. Harbaugh is a veteran of the Civil War. He was born in Washington County, Maryland, and enlisted in 1862 as a member of Company L, First Maryland Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of hostilities, after which he settled in Miami County, where he has been ever since engaged in farming.

Losh O. Harbaugh was reared in Miami County, attended the country schools and prior to studying law, took a commercial course in a business college in Dayton. In the fall of 1898 he received his degree of B. S. at Valparaiso College, Indiana, having taught school for four years previously. Undoubtedly this profession is a great training field for any other and Mr. Harbaugh has never regretted devoting four years to it. In 1901 he completed his law course in the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, immediately locating at Piqua and practicing in all courts of the State. In addition to a large law business he is extensively interested in dealing in real estate.

On June 11, 1902, Mr. Harbaugh was married to Miss Mary Elizabeth Davidson, of Ironton, Ohio, and they have two children: W. Davidson and John C. Mr. and Mrs. Harbaugh are members of the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church. He is identified with the Masonic fraternity and with the Piqua Business Men's Association.

WILLIAM R. MUMFORD, one of Elizabeth Township's most substantial and representative citizens, resides in Section 3, his 500-acre farm being reached by the Dayton and Brandt Turnpike road. Mr.

Mumford was born in Elizabeth Township, Miami County, Ohio, June 7, 1841, and is a son of John and Mary (Crawmer) Mumford. The grandfather, John Mumford, spent his life in Maryland. He married Hannah Knickirict and they had eight children, namely: James, William, George, Richard, Hannah, Betsey, Amanda and John.

Of the above family the youngest son was the father of William R. Mumford. In early manhood, following his marriage, he came to Ohio and engaged first in farming near Zanesville and then rented a farm in Elizabeth Township, Miami County, on which he lived until he purchased the one on which his son lives, buying 113 acres from John Helvey. He went into the grain growing and stock raising business and became a man of wealth and prominence. Both he and his wife were members of the Universalist Church of Miami City. His death occurred September 16, 1868. He married Mary Crawmer, who died in September, 1862, and they were both interred in the McKendree Church cemetery. They had eight children, as follows: James, John P., William R., Joseph, Matilda, Julia Ann, Mary Jane and Amanda.

William R. Mumford was educated in the schools of Elizabeth Township and Miami City and grew to manhood a farmer under his father's practical training. He continued on the homestead for several years after his marriage and then settled on his present farm, which he lived on until the death of his wife, when he returned home for several years more, subsequently resuming his residence on his own farm. Of his large property about eighty acres lie in Pike Township, and twelve in Bethel Township, but all the rest is in Elizabeth Township and with the exception of twenty-five acres still in timber, all the land is well drained and ready for cultivation. Farm buildings are on different parts of the property, Mr. Mumford finding the erection of one barn being the only necessity. It is a magnificent property and its value is represented by many thousands of dollars.

On November 7, 1868, Mr. Mumford was married to Miss Olivia Schindler, who died September 29, 1876. She was a most estimable lady, a daughter of John and Sarah Schindler. To this marriage were born four children, namely: Irwin, who married Susan Drake, a daughter of Ezra H. Drake, and has one child, Ruth; Eben, who married Luella M. Horn; Viola, who died when aged sixteen years; and Olivia, who died at the age of two and one-half years. In his political sentiments, Mr. Mumford is a Democrat.

SHERMAN D. SYLER, dealing in real estate, bonds, loans, investments and insurance, is one of Piqua's representative business men. He was born September 29, 1872, near Troy, Ohio, a son of Samuel Syler.

The late Samuel Syler was born in Miami County, in which his life was spent, he dying at the early age of twenty-nine years. The Syler family has been established in this county from its earliest days and in every important sense is a representative one.

Sherman D. Syler was educated in the schools of Troy and when he put aside his books he became a clerk and served as such with different employers for seven years. He then came to Piqua and continued in mercantile pursuits for ten years.

In 1895 he engaged in a partnership in his present line of business, with Ira T. Swartz, and in 1896 he purchased his partner's interest and since then has continued in the business alone, through energy and business capacity placing himself in the front rank in this line.

In 1898 Mr. Syler was married to Miss Bessie M. Knouff, a daughter of the late Dr. Knouff, a leading physician of Ansonia, Darke County, Ohio, and they have one little daughter, Mary Elizabeth. Mr. Syler and wife are members of the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he has been treasurer of the Sunday-school for seven years. His activity in politics is not pronounced, but his duties as a public-spirited citizen are never neglected.

ALONZO J. FURROW, deceased. The subject of this notice was a native son of Miami County, born in Staunton Township, October 18, 1842. His parents were Jeremiah and Sarah (Covault) Furrow, and he was a grandson, on the paternal side, of Adam Furrow, who was a native of the Old Dominion. The father and grandfather came to Ohio from Virginia in or about the year 1811, making the journey with a four-horse team. Adam Furrow entered a tract of eighty-three acres of land from the Government, which tract afterwards became the farm owned and operated by the subject of this sketch. Here he built a log cabin and afterwards erected a part of the house which in later years became the residence of his grandson, Alonzo. At that early date this tract was heavily timbered and most of the land around was in its primeval condition. Indians were still numerous, but usually not hostile to the settlers. Adam Furrow died September 30, 1854, having attained the advanced age of eighty-nine years. He and his wife, whose maiden name was Mary Grimes, were the parents of eight children, namely: Abel, David, Jacob, John, James, Jeremiah, Elijah and Elizabeth.

Jeremiah Furrow was brought up on the homestead in Miami County, where he resided most of his life. His time was not all devoted to agriculture, however, as he aided in building the canal and was lineman and paymaster of the canal for forty years. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity and also a valued member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He died September 5, 1890, his wife having previously passed away—on June 6, 1888.

Alonzo J. Furrow was about four years old when his father returned to the homestead, and he subsequently resided there all his life, except for a period during the Civil War, when he was in the army. On August 11, 1862, he became a member of Company A, 110th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. The first engagement in which he participated was at Winchester, Virginia. He later took part in the battle of Mine Run and in the Wilderness campaign, being captured in the latter by the enemy. He was sent to Danville Prison, where he remained for a week, and was then transferred to Andersonville Prison, where he spent four months of hardship and semi-starvation. At the end of that time he was transferred to Florence, South Carolina, Prison for three months, his total imprisonment lasting seven months to the day, he being captured May 6th and paroled on the 6th of October. Receiving a twenty days' furlough, he spent it in a visit home,

MR. AND MRS. ALONZO J. FURROW

afterwards reporting again for duty at Camp Chase. He was honorably discharged June 10, 1865, and returning home, devoted himself to agriculture and to the improvement of the homestead, on which he subsequently resided until his death. The latter event occurred on August 17, 1908.

Mr. Furrow was a man of industry and intelligence, keeping well informed on the leading issues of the day. In politics he was a Republican. He was a member of Alexandria Post, G. A. R., and was held in high esteem, not only by his comrades who wore the blue with him through the trying days of the great struggle for a united country, but also by his neighbors and the residents of this and neighboring townships generally. This esteem he justified by his sterling character as a man and citizen.

Mr. Furrow was married February 1, 1866, to Miss Louie Riddle, a daughter of Manning Riddle. Six children were born of this union—Edna, Nellie, Charles, Bertha P., Effie Maud, and Henry R. Edna, born March 4, 1867, is now the wife of Harry Cecil, and has two children—Earl K. and Lester L. Nellie, who was born October 12, 1869, died January 7, 1871. Charles, born June 4, 1872, married Jennie Du Bois, who died May 3, 1908. They had two children—Bernice, born January 21, 1899, and Ralph H., born January 16, 1906, both of whom are living. Bertha P., born December 16, 1875, died September 27, 1876. Effie Maud, born November 29, 1878, married F. M. Holmes, who died December 20, 1907. She has two children—Gladys, born June 2, 1899, and Robert F., born September 4, 1903. Harry P. Furrow, born April 9, 1883, was married November 26, 1902, to Lola Carson, and has two children—Dorothy, born June 3, 1903, and Aileen C., born September 26, 1904.

MISS MARY SHEETS, who is one of Elizabeth Township's best known and most highly esteemed ladies, resides on her farm of 260 acres, on which she was born and which has always been her home. Her parents were Isaac S. and Nancy (Knoop) Sheets.

The paternal grandparents of Miss Sheets were Andrew and Catherine (Sills) Sheets. They were born in Pennsylvania and moved from there first to Tennessee and then to Elizabeth Township, Miami County, Ohio. They had eleven children, five of whom died in infancy. Those who reached maturity were Sarah, Nancy, Elizabeth, Catharine, Eve and Isaac S. Andrew Sheets was both farmer and blacksmith.

Isaac S. Sheets was born in 1799 and lived on his father's farm until his marriage, when he moved to the farm on which his daughter Mary now resides. He engaged in farming and was an extensive raiser of cattle and hogs. He was a man of great business capacity and not only put up the substantial farm buildings but also erected a saw-mill, a flour mill and a distillery and carried on these industries successfully. He married Nancy Knoop, who was a daughter of John and Barbara (Hultzstein) Knoop, and they had the following children: Elizabeth, lives in Alcony, Ohio; Andrew, who died in young manhood; Mary, and John, Barbara and George, all deceased. Isaac S. Sheets died September 23, 1877, having survived his wife some fifteen years.

The Sheets homestead is a very valuable property. It is situated in Section 34, Elizabeth Township, lying along the Troy and Springfield Turnpike road. The Sheets and Knoops are old and representative families of this section.

JOHN VOLENY HOWE, who carries on general farming in Concord Township and lives on his well improved farm of 160 acres, which is situated on the north township line, was born January 3, 1852, at Piqua, Ohio, and is a son of John Alexander and Rebecca (Stattler) Howe.

John Alexander Howe was born at Oxford, Pennsylvania, and when he was very young, his father, Dr. Howe, died and his mother started with him, in 1824, to Ohio. The journey was made on horseback and in a wagon, and the mother settled first on a farm near Lockport, Shelby County. Some years later she married James Robinson and they had two children—Caroline, who married William Maymyer, both now deceased; and Mary, who married Thomas Miller, both being now deceased. The mother of these children then went to the home of her son, John Alexander, Mr. Robinson having also died, and there her last days were spent. John Alexander Howe had to go to work when quite young and for a number of years lived in the home of Stephen Woodney, who was as kind to him as a father. When he reached manhood he started out for himself and as he had no capital but his strength, he worked at different things and finally became a boatman on the old canal, where he continued for thirteen years. After his marriage he bought eighty acres of land from Henry Kitchen, in Washington Township, near Piqua, and lived there all the rest of his life, his death occurring in 1891, at the age of seventy-three years. He married Rebecca Stattler, who was born south of Piqua, and died in 1893, aged sixty-nine years. Her father, Christopher Stattler, had settled in Miami County while Indians were still numerous. Four children were born to this marriage, namely: Laura, who is the widow of William Du Bois, of Piqua; George, who lives on the home farm situated on the traction line three miles west of Piqua; John V.; and William, deceased.

John V. Howe was two years old when his parents settled on the farm, on which he grew to manhood. His education was secured in the district schools during the winter months, but he found it necessary to help his father, from boyhood up to manhood. He remained at home until he married and then settled on his present farm, secured from his father, and has remained here ever since. He has done a large amount of improving, including the building of his comfortable eleven-room frame house, and other structures on the place made necessary by his large farming operations. He makes no specialty, but carries on general agriculture, living in great comfort and putting aside a modest sum to enjoy when he retires.

On November 25, 1881, Mr. Howe was married to Miss Nellie C. Graham, a daughter of James and Jane Graham. Many years ago the father of Mrs. Howe bought the present farm and here Mrs. Howe was born. It later was purchased by John A. Howe and subsequently became the property of its present owner. Mr. and Mrs. Howe have three children: Alexander, who assists his father; Ethel, who married Hubert Tiser; and Frona, who attends the Troy High School. Mr. Howe and family are members of the Christian Church. In politics he is a Democrat. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias lodge at Covington.

L. H. SHIPMAN, a well known lawyer of Troy, Ohio, has been a resident of that city some twelve years. He was born near St. Mary's, Ohio, in October, 1874, and was reared on a farm.

Mr. Shipman, after completing the prescribed course in the common schools, attended St. Mary's High School and the National Normal School, being a student in the latter institution two terms. He was then an instructor in the schools for four years, and in 1896 moved to Troy and entered the law office of Mr. Gilbert. He studied under his preceptorship and also attended the law department of the Ohio State University for one year. After his admission to the bar, March 17, 1899, he formed a partnership with Mr. Gilbert, but on March 3, 1909, it was dissolved. Mr. Shipman's office is now on West Main Street. He practices in the various state courts, and in June, 1905, was admitted to practice in the Federal courts. He has taken an active interest in political affairs, and served one term as city solicitor.

April 17, 1901, Mr. Shipman was united in marriage with Miss Jessie Shannon, who was a teacher in the public schools of Troy. She was born and reared in that city and is a daughter of Samuel Shannon. One son, Franklin Shipman, was born of this union. The subject of this sketch is a prominent member of the Masonic Order, Knights of Pythias, the Troy Club and the Island Outing Club. He is a member and secretary of the board of the Feghtley Lutheran Home at Tippecanoe City. Religiously, Mr. and Mrs. Shipman are members of the English Lutheran Church.

G. H. RUNDLE, president of the Piqua National Bank, president of the George H. Rundle Company and officially and financially connected with a number of other important and successful business enterprises, has been a resident of this city for the past twenty-three years and during this time has served as treasurer of Miami County. He is a native of the State of New York but he was reared and educated in Connecticut.

In 1871, when a young man of twenty-three years, Mr. Rundle came to Lima, Ohio, and went into the patent medicine business in association with Dr. Porter, and in the following year he purchased Dr. Porter's interest and continued the business at Lima until 1875, when he removed to Fletcher and in the following year came to Piqua. In 1897 the business was incorporated as The G. H. Rundle Company, with a capital stock of $140,000, and with the following officers: G. H. Rundle, president; J. C. Duncan, of Dayton, vice president; A. D. Hance, secretary and general manager; and Allen G. Rundle. An immense business is done, the company occupies a brick block with office at No. 527 North Main Street, and in addition to an army of chemists and workers, a force of 100 men are kept on the road. Mr. Rundle's additional interests are many. He is president of the Piqua National Bank; is a director in the Stuart-Brown Underwear Company; is vice-president of the Home Telephone Company; is president of the G. H. Rundle and Son Com pany, of Windsor, Ontario, Dominion of Canada; and has lesser interests. He has been an active and useful citizen and served with efficiency as county treasurer.

In 1874 Mr. Rundle was married to Miss Amanda Hance, who was born near Casstown, Miami County, Ohio, and they have two children: Allen G. and Ida. The former was educated in the Piqua Schools and Exeter Academy and is treasurer of the G. H. Rundle Company. He married Miss Grace A., daughter of W. A. Snyder, of Piqua. Ida was educated at Piqua and at an exclusive school in Washington City. She married Logan A. Frazier, of Piqua. Mr. Rundle and family are members of the First Presbyterian Church of Piqua. He is a thirty-second degree Mason and belongs to the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Council at Piqua, to the Commandery at Troy and to the Shrine and Consistory at Dayton. He is also a member of the Piqua Club.

JOHN ORMOND MOORE, whose business has been that of painter and paper hanger at Piqua for many years, resides on a beautiful farm on the Troy Pike, in Staunton Township. He was born in Lost Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, September 5, 1860, and is a son of William and Maria (Shidaker) Moore, and a grandson of Philip Moore.

Philip Moore, who probably was a native of Scotland, came west from Pennsylvania in a wagon to Miami County, Ohio, and here passed the most of his days. He and his wife, Rebecca, were parents of the following children: Ruth, deceased; Sallie, Susan, deceased; George, who was a soldier in the Union Army during the Civil War; Charles, deceased; John; William, also deceased.

William Moore, father of the subject of this record, was born in the eastern part of Miami County, and spent his boyhood days in the vicinity of Addison. He became a painter by trade and after his marriage settled on a farm in Lost Creek Township. Later they moved to Georgia, where he died, but his widow now lives at the old home in Lost Creek Township, aged seventy-five years. She was in maiden life, Maria Shidaker, and came from near Tippecanoe City, where her father was the owner of 300 acres of land. They became parents of the following children: Minnie, wife of John Mann; Caroline, widow of Webster Shidaker; George, deceased; John Ormond; Savannah Ellen, who died at nine years; Rose, wife of Alva Gabriel; and Arthur E.

John O. Moore spent his boyhood days on the farm and lived at home until his marriage in 1888, when he moved to Piqua and worked at his trade as painter and paper hanger. He continued there with uninterrupted success until 1895, when he purchased his present property of ten acres in Staunton Township, about three and a half miles north of Troy. He also owns three properties in Piqua, two of them on Boal Avenue, and one on South Avenue.

Mr. Moore was married March 7, 1888, to Miss Sedora M. Angle, a daughter of John P. and Sarah G. (Orr) Angle, both now deceased. Her father died in February, 1897, at the age of seventy-five years, and her mother on October 28, 1908, at the age of ninety years. Five children were born to bless the union of Mr. and Mrs. Moore, namely: Bertha May, who is endowed with superior musical talents and has been an instructor on the piano since she was fifteen years old; one who died in infancy; Ormond A.; Gladys M. and Kenneth P. Miss Bertha May Moore is a graduate in music of the State Normal School at Ypsilanti, Michigan, and undoubtedly inherits a love of music from her father. She is the composer of three pieces of music of unusual merit. While he has received no musical training, Mr. Moore has the talent and has always played on the organ; his oldest son plays the cornet, and the three spend many pleasant evenings with their music. It is a very entertaining and hospitable family, as their many friends will attest, and in the summer there are few days passed which do not witness the arrival of crowds of young people from Piqua in search of entertainment in the beautiful little park and the fine bathing stream on their farm. In the winter many sled-loads come out to enjoy the hospitality of their home. Mr. Moore is a Republican in politics. In fraternal affiliation, he is a member of Piqua Lodge, No. 180, I. O. O. F. Religiously, he and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

A. W. DE WEESE, a representative member of the Piqua bar, who has made this city his place of residence since 1899, was born in 1873, in Staunton Township, Miami County, Ohio.

The De Weese family is one of the oldest in Miami County, and the grandmother of A. W. De Weese was the first white child born within its borders. His father, Henry G. De Weese, was a substantial farmer in Spring Creek Township.

A. W. De Weese graduated first from the Spring Creek Graded School and then the Troy High School, after which he spent one year, with the Class of 1893, in the law department of the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, graduating in 1895 from the Cincinnati Law School. Mr. De Weese then practiced for two years in partnership with Capt. Williams at Troy, and later conducted offices at both Troy and Piqua, in partnership with A. R. Byrkett, and after this association was dissolved Mr. De Weese took the Piqua business and now practices in all the State and Federal courts. He is a man of versatile gifts and for three years was editor of the Buckeye. He has always been active in politics and served on the Board of Elections from April, 1903, until August, 1908. He was the candidate for the anti-saloon party in both the mayoralty and city solicitorship contests, and in spite of the strong element gathered against him was defeated by the small margin of eight and thirteen votes, respectively. He has always upheld law and order and has thus stood for everything best in civic life.

On December 25, 1900, Mr. De Weese was married to Miss Grace Doren, of Pekin, Illinois. They are members of St. James Episcopal Church. He is an Odd Fellow and for three years filled the office of exalted ruler in the Elks organization.

THOMAS CHALMERS HARBAUGH. The subject of this sketch was born at Middletown, Maryland, January 13, 1849. He is the son of Morgan M. and Catherine Routzahn Harbaugh. At an early age he came to Ohio with his parents and settled at Piqua, but subsequently moved to Casstown, Miami County, where he has since resided. Mr. Harbaugh served in the Casstown post-office during the Civil War and early took up literature as a profession. Since 1867, in which year he published his first fiction, he has been constantly engaged in writing. He has contributed acceptably to nearly all the prominent publications of the country and has written voluminously in every branch of literature.

Mr. Harbaugh has published three volumes of poetry: "Maple Leaves" (1885), "Bugle Notes of the Blue" (1906) and "Lyrics of the Gray" (1907). The two last books have circulated largely in both the North and the South, receiving the commendation of prominent generals on both sides of the great conflict. His poem, "Grant Dying," was the only poem of that nature selected for publication in Stedman's "Encyclopedia of American Literature."

Of the numerous novels written by Mr. Harbaugh it is unnecessary to speak. They run into the hundreds. His most famous novels are "The White Squadron," "Janet Sinclair," "Robespiere," "Alice of Maryland," "The Black Inn," "By Whose Hand?" and "The Czar's Spy." He is a contributor to the Sunday magazines, "The Chicago Ledger," "Youth's Companion," "The Ohio Farmer," etc. His contributions to the various county newspapers under the nom de plume of "Tarcomed" are well known.

Mr. Harbaugh has visited every battlefield of the Civil War in search of data for his novels, many of which have a historical basis. He is also in demand at soldier reunions and on patriotic occasions, where he recites his own poems. He was educated in the public schools of Casstown and never had the chance of entering college, but he is a great reader and has stored his mind with every sort of information. He is unmarried.

GEORGE W. ROUTSON, one of Ohio's prominent educators, superintendent of the schools of Staunton and Concord Townships, Miami County, and serving in his third year as a member of the Board of County School Examiners, has been identified with school and educational work ever since completing his own training. He was born December 7, 1861, in Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Reuben and a grandson of George Routson.

George Routson, the grandfather, came to Ohio from Maryland, settling in Newberry Township, Miami County, in 1832. There his son, Reuben Routson, was born August 5, 1833, and the old homestead subsequently became the birthplace and boyhood home of the present George W. Routson.

George W. Routson attended the best local schools and began to teach at an unusually early age, and in 1886 he became a student at Wittenberg College, where he remained until 1888. He then resumed teaching, for several years being connected with the schools of his native township, and then accepted the position of superintendent of the schools of Casstown. One year later he resigned this position in order to accept that of principal of the Covington schools, where he remained one year, and then spent the same period at North Clayton. About this time he purchased a farm in Staunton Township and resided there while he served for five years as township superintendent of schools and later as a teacher. Mr. Routson is widely known in the educational field, not only as a man of scholarly attainments, but also as one whose heart is in his work and who, in a peculiar degree, is admirably fitted for it. His constant aim appears to be the formulating and trial of new methods to improve the efficiency of the schools and, although often forced to give way in his progressive methods until less intelligent co-workers have caught up with him, the superiority of all the schools with which he has been identified is easily proven.

On July 21, 1892, Mr. Routson was married to Miss Angie Branson, who was born and reared in Newberry Township. She is a daughter of D. C. Branson (dec'd), who was born in Lost Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, May 1, 1828. The Branson family is a pioneer one in Miami County and was an early one in New Jersey. Two brothers of the name came from England and founded the family, which has now representatives in many States. Mr. and Mrs. Routson have one son, Luther Branson. They are members of the Lutheran Church, in which Mr. Routson is an official. Although he retains his valuable farm in Staunton Township, Mr. Routson is residing in an attractive residence in the suburbs of Troy, having purchased the property in the fall of 1907.

ISAAC S. SHEETS, general farmer and dairyman, residing on a farm of 400 acres and carrying on an equal partnership business with his mother and brother, Arthur K. Sheets, in Section 33, Elizabeth Township, was born in Miami County, Ohio, September 7, 1872. His parents were John K. and Elizabeth (Null) Sheets.

The first of the Sheets family to come to Miami County was Isaac S. Sheets, the grandfather of the present Isaac S. He was a native of Tennessee and in 1805 he settled in Elizabeth Township on the farm now occupied by Mrs. Joseph Studebaker. He had the following children: Elizabeth, who resides at Alcony, Miami County; Mary, who resides on the old homestead; John K., who is deceased; Barbara Jane; George M.; Andrew, who died in early manhood. Isaac S. Sheets was a farmer, miller and distiller and a dealer in stock and grain. For his day he was a most enterprising and successful man. He built the old mill in Elizabeth Township and shipped grain and stock to Philadelphia, constructing the wagons for carrying the grain to points of shipment, there then being no canal yet built and no railroads.

John K. Sheets, father of Isaac S., operated the mill with his brother George for a number of years and then divided the homestead farm. In 1884 John K. Sheets bought the Gearhart homestead of 157 acres and then went extensively into the breeding of Jersey cattle, in which industry he remained interested until his death, in 1895. He married Elizabeth Null, a daughter of Jacob and Sybil Null, and they had three children, namely: Jennie, who died when aged sixteen years; Isaac S., who has charge of the home farm; and Arthur K., who resides in Troy, Ohio.

Isaac S. Sheets first attended the Knoop school, not far from his father's residence, later was a student in the Troy High School and then took an engineering course in the State University at Ann Arbor, Michigan. The serious illness of his father recalled him home, and after the father's death he took charge of the latter's large interests, and has successfully carried them on ever since. Mr. Sheets has fine herds, including twenty-five milch cows and twenty-five young stock, all being registered. About forty acres of the land is in timber, while the remainder is in cultivated tracts and pasturage. He devotes his whole time to his business and is numbered with the most progressive and enterprising young business men of this section.

Mr. Sheets married Miss Carrie Schweinfurth, a daughter of John and Wilhelmina Schweinfurth of Ann Arbor, and they have one child, Miriam. Mr. and Mrs. Sheets attend the Methodist Episcopal Church at Troy. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity and retains his interest in his college society, the Phi Gamma Delta. He is a Democrat politically but is not active.

A. G. STOUDER, one of the business men of Troy, Ohio, is president of the Hobart Electric Manufacturing Company, and has been a resident of this city since 1888. He was born near Muncie, Indiana.

Mr. Stouder was about six years of age when the family moved from Indiana to Iowa, where he was reared and educated. His mother died in the latter state. He was variously employed during his younger career in business and traveled extensively in the different sections of the United States. In 1888 he took up his residence in Troy, Ohio, and at that time established the Troy Sunshade Company; he continued with that enterprise some ten or twelve years, then sold out, and with others purchased the Hobart Electric Manufacturing plant, of which he has since served as president. He is a stockholder and director of the Carriage Sunshade Company at the present time. He also is a member of the Troy Club.

LAWSON D. SMITH, owner of 100 acres of rich farming land, situated in Concord Township, on the south side of the Swailes Turnpike Road, about two and one-half miles southwest of Troy, is one of the representative men of this section and a member of an old Miami County family. He was born April 7, 1854, in Union Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of William and Mary (Davis) Smith.

The grandfather, John Smith, came to Ohio from North Carolina about 1800, and after he selected his tract of land in Union Township, Miami County, had to cut down forest trees in order to find a sufficiently ample space on which to build his lonely little log cabin. He subsequently married the daughter of another early settler, by the name of Fouts, who died there, and many years later he died at the home of his son William, in Union Township, east of West Milton. They had three children: Mary, who married Edward Fenters, both deceased; William; and Susan, who married Albert McCool, both deceased.

William Smith was born in the little log house mentioned above, and with the exception of one year during which he lived at West Milton, spent his whole life on the old place. A large part of the clearing of the farm fell to his share and it all came to him as an inheritance. He died there in 1905, aged seventy-six years. He was married (first) to Hannah R. Pearson and they had two children, neither of whom survives. He was married (second) to Mary Davis, who died in 1906, just one year and one month after her husband. She was the beloved mother of six children, namely: Lawson Davis; Martha, who married William Pearson; Isabella, who married Benson Antonedies; William Bronson; Leslie, who married Edward Bowers; and Elizabeth, who died when aged nine years.

Lawson Davis Smith was born and reared on the old homestead farm, which had been the dwelling place of father and grandfather, and during his youth split many of the rails and set posts for many rods of fence, that being before barbed wire was thought of. After his school days were over he settled down to hard work on the farm, although he had more than once proved his strength at the plough handles when not more than nine years old, being robust from childhood. He continued to live with his father until his own marriage and then continued on the farm under other conditions. He remained on that place until he came to his present one in Concord Township, March 8, 1906. It is well improved property and Mr. Smith bought it of Dr. Means. He devotes about six acres to tobacco and the remainder of his land to grain farming.

On June 9, 1875, Mr. Smith was married to Miss Rachel A. Wininger, who was born in Indiana and is the third child of her parents, George and Cinderella (Badger) Wininger, the former of whom is deceased. Mrs. Wininger still survives and is in the enjoyment of good health, and takes pleasure in the fact that her seven daughters and three sons are all living and have happy domestic circles of their own. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have had three children: Carrie G., who is the wife of Prof. George Countryman, county superintendent of the schools of Plymouth County, Iowa, and has one son, Winston; Rose M., who is the wife of Charles Kessler, of Miami County, and has three children: Margaret, Alice and Elizabeth; and Edith, who died at the age of six months. In politics Mr. Smith is a Republican. For many years he has been a member of the Union Township School Board and was chairman for three years.

AMOS M. HETZLER, chief of the Troy Fire Department, has been a resident of this city for some nine years and is one of its most valued citizens. He belongs to an old pioneer family of Miami County and was born in 1868, at Hetzler's Corners, a place named in honor of his grandfather.

John Hetzler, grandfather of Chief Hetzler, came to Miami County when the country was little less than a great wilderness, and he was the founder of the village of Hetzler's Corners. There the father of Chief Hetzler, George Hetzler, was born in 1840, in the same house in which his son was born, twenty-eight years later. George Hetzler resides at Dayton, Ohio.

Amos M. Hetzler was sixteen years old when his parents moved to the southwestern part of Kentucky, where he remained for seven years. He then came back to Miami County, where he worked on a farm and in factories until he came to Troy. He became identified with the fire department and was elected its chief on December 31, 1907. On many occasions his bravery and leadership have been tested and proven, and he enjoys the full confidence of his fellow-citizens as to his official efficiency. On February 14, 1900, Chief Hetzler was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Hendershott, of Conover, Miami County, and they have two children: Irene and Harold. They are members of the Baptist Church. Fraternally Chief Hetzler is a Knight of Pythias.

JOHN HEADLEY, one of the best known and most efficient public officials of Troy, has filled the position of chief of police for the past three years. He has been a resident of this city for seventeen years, but is a native of another State, having been born in 1869, at Lexington, Kentucky.

Mr. Headley remained in his native place until he had reached early manhood and then went to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, coming from there to Troy in 1892. For several years he was variously employed, working a part of the time in the winters for a coal dealer and in the summers selling a certain excellent oil for harness, of his own manufacture. He first became connected with the public service of the city when he was appointed driver for the fire department, a position he so admirably filled for three years that he was then appointed chief of the department and that office he most acceptably filled until the latter part of 1907. The death of Chief Irwin, of the police force, left a vacancy which Chief Headley was appointed, in April, 1905, to fill, and on the first of May following he was elected to the office. In former years he was active in politics, but latterly he has given but scant attention to matters political. He is a member of the order of Elks at Troy.

GEORGE A. FREY, one of Bethel Township's most substantial citizens and prosperous farmers, carries on extensive operations, having two hundred and seventeen acres in Section 36, Bethel Township, and nineteen acres in Elizabeth Township, all in one tract, situated on the Tippecanoe City and Elizabeth Turnpike; also other land in Elizabeth Township. Mr. Frey was born May 15, 1854, in Clermont County, Ohio, and is a son of Daniel and Sarah (Losey) Frey.

The parents of Mr. Frey removed from Clermont to Miami County, and in 1862 the father settled on a rented farm of 200 acres, and later bought 136 acres on the Carlisle Turnpike, in Bethel Township, where he carried on mixed farming. After the death of his wife in 1904 he retired with his eldest daughter to Tippecanoe City, where they still reside. He married Sarah Losey, a daughter of Abiel Losey, and they had four children, namely: George A., Lucretia, Charles W., and Sedate.

George A. Frey obtained his education in the Ten Eick school in Bethel Township, and then assisted his father up to the time of his own marriage in 1879. He then bought 172 acres of his present land, which is one of the richest farms in the township, and made improvements, which included the repairing of the farm residence and the building of a new barn. He purchased the remainder of his land from the Booher heirs, and this land he has also been improving.

In July, 1879, Mr. Frey was married to Miss Anna M. Rudy, a daughter of Joseph and Louise Rudy, and they have three children, as follows: Norah, who married L. R. Wilson, of Monroe Township, and

DAVID C. MANNING

MRS. CAROLINE T. MANNING

has three children—George H., Mary Frances, and Marjorie; and Harry and Jessie, both residing at home. Mr. Frey and his family are members of the Pisgah Methodist Episcopal Church, of Bethel Township. In politics he is a stanch Democrat, and for nine years has served as township trustee, for three years being president of the Board of Agriculture. He is one of the representative men of this section of Miami County.

DAVID C. MANNING, one of the most respected among the elderly residents of Brown Township, where he is now living retired from active life, was born in the northeast corner of this township February 3, 1835, son of Major Clarkson and Phoebe (Corey) Manning. His paternal grandfather, Isaac Manning, was of German descent, and was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, serving with Washington's army at the battle of Trenton.

Clarkson Manning was born in Warren Township, Somerset County, New Jersey, August 15, 1794. He was early trained to farm labor, and, the school of his district being some two miles away, his educational opportunities were in consequence very limited. In September, 1814, he was drafted, and served as a private under Captain John Logan, his company forming a part of the troops detailed for the guarding of New York Bay and being stationed in the vicinity of Sandy Hook. During this service he opened fire on some British vessels that were approaching, but which thereupon retreated. From that time, it is said, he was known by the title of major (the major of the company being sick, he had served in his place); he retained this title to the end of his life. His military service was short, as he was discharged in Jersey City in December of the same year—1814. In later years he received two land warrants from the Government, one of forty and another of 120 acres, which were obtained for him by Squire Duncan, of Fletcher.

On March 18, 1818, Major Manning married Phoebe Corey, who was born in New Jersey, January 7, 1791. Early in the following June they started in a two-horse wagon for Ohio, heading for Lebanon, Warren County. On arriving there they remained a short time, and then went to Middletown. Here they stopped until April, 1819, when they emigrated to Miami County and entered land in Section 3, Brown Township. While his family and belongings found shelter at the nearest neighbor's, some four miles away, Major Manning went to work to erect a habitation, building a log cabin 18x20 feet and opening up a road to his property. He then took possession with his family, and soon all were engaged in the strenuous work of developing a good farm out of the rough and wild land on which they had settled. This took a number of years, but was finally accomplished. In 1824, on the prospect of a new road being opened up to pass by his farm, Major Manning built a hewed-log house, which was one of the best in the township and was the first house taxed by the county; it was also the only one with a shingle roof in Brown Township. In this the family resided until 1833, at which time the Major erected a brick house on the Lena Pike. Here he spent the rest of his life, which was prolonged to his ninety-fourth year, his death taking place April 12, 1887, as the result of a fall on the ice several weeks previous. His wife attained a still greater longevity, dying in her ninety-seventh year, about eighteen weeks before her husband. At the time of her death they had enjoyed almost sixty-eight years of happy married life together—a remarkable record, which few are privileged to repeat. To their latest days they were well preserved and intelligent old people, who took an interest in what was going on around them and kept informed with respect to the leading events of the day. In politics Mr. Manning was a Jacksonian Democrat. He accompanied his wife to the Leatherwood Baptist Church, of which she was a member. Mrs. Manning was an active church worker, a true and loyal woman and of a good and highly respectable family.

Major Manning and his wife were the parents of seven children, as follows: Parkus, who died at the age of nine years; Elsie Anna, now deceased, who was the wife of David Counts and lived in Fletcher; Isaac, who died at the age of forty years, on his farm near Lena, in Champaign County; Johanna, who married John Hair, and died in Fulton County, Illinois; Mary Jane, widow of William Wooley, and a resident of Palestine, Ohio; John, who died at the age of eighteen years; and David Corey, whose name appears at the head of this sketch.

David Corey Manning was reared on the home farm and educated in the common schools of his neighborhood. When about twenty years of age he took a trip through northern Indiana, southern Michigan, central Illinois and Iowa, looking for a favorable location on which to settle. He purchased some land in Benton County, Iowa, but subsequently disposed of it without having settled thereon. During the Civil War he took another trip, this time going east, overseeing a few loads of stock, and also visiting some friends in Plainfield, New Jersey. In 1865 he took charge of a steam saw-mill north of Conover, and operated it until it was destroyed by fire some three years later. In 1868 he purchased a farm in Brown Township from Daniel H. Knoop, which comprised seventy-seven and a half acres. This he paid for within ten years. He made excellent improvements on the property, including the erection of substantial farm buildings. At his father's death he became administrator of the property, dividing the land according to his father's wishes. He received forty acres of the old homestead, and afterwards purchased his sister's interest, also consisting of forty acres. He was engaged for many years in agricultural pursuits, being one of the most progressive and successful farmers in this vicinity. A few years ago he retired, and is spending his life on his home farm, known as Fruit Hill farm.

Mr. Manning was married February 5, 1857, to Miss Caroline Throckmorton, of Brown Township, a daughter of George and Sarah (Lafferty) Throckmorton, who were New Jersey people. George Throckmorton, who was a carpenter by trade, came to Ohio with his parents and was married in Warren County. For some time he and his family resided in Piqua, but afterwards settled on a farm in Brown Township, where he made his home for a number of years. He removed to Clinton County, where he spent three years, but afterwards returned and purchased a farm adjoining his old place in Brown Township. Here he died, but in the meanwhile had resided for a brief interval at Conover. His daughter, Mrs. Manning, was born in the homestead, October 25, 1838.

Mr. and Mrs. David C. Manning have been the parents of two children—George D. and Charles E. The former, whose death occurred October 23, 1904, was an agriculturist and school teacher, being one of the best known educators in the county. He was married and was an enterprising and useful citizen, whose untimely demise was much regretted by the entire community. His brother, Charles E. Manning, residing in this township, is also married and is a successful farmer.

Mr. Manning is a Democrat in political faith, but has taken little active part in politics. He was, however, elected trustee to fill an unexpired term of six months, was re-elected to the same office for one year and subsequently for three years more, his election being a voluntary expression of the confidence of his fellow citizens, as he had not solicited the office. On his father-in-law's death Mr. Manning successfully and satisfactorily settled the latter's estate. He was formerly active in the work of the Grange, and at various times held office therein. At the present time he is enjoying the repose which he has well earned by a life of industry and usefulness that has been marked by fidelity to every trust reposed in him. He now rents out his former farm and is one of the most esteemed among the older residents of Fletcher and township generally.

NETH BROTHERS, who have conducted a first class meat business at Covington since June 1, 1897, with market on High Street and slaughter house in West Covington, are representative business men of this city, who, through their enterprise, have developed an important industry.

J. B. Neth, a member of the firm of Neth Brothers, was born at Covington, Ohio, May 7, 1871, and is a son of Jacob and Barbara (Flammer) Neth. George Neth, the junior member of the firm of Neth Brothers, was born at Covington, December 16, 1873, and is also a son of Jacob and Barbara (Flammer) Neth. Jacob Neth and wife were both born in Germany, but their marriage took place in America. By trade he was a weaver and he was in business at Covington for many years, where his death occurred in September, 1908. His widow still survives.

J. B. Neth was reared at Covington and when ten years old he began to work for the old firm of Dress, Neth & Co., the Neth of the firm being his uncle, Conrad Neth. He continued to work for that house until 1889, with the exception of one year, and then was employed for a few months, on three different occasions, in a grocery at Celina, Ohio, and later spent four months in a grocery house at Dayton. After coming back from Dayton and before entering into his present enterprise he worked for W. W. Witmer, undertaker, for three years. He is serving in his second term as chief of the Covington Volunteer Fire Department. Mr. Neth married Miss Mary Koons and they have two children: Neva Barbara and Blanche Louisa.

George Neth left school when fifteen years of age and began work in Charles Flashner's butcher shop. In 1893 he took a trip through the West, and while residing in California he worked as a butcher, returning in July, 1897. On March 1, 1898, he entered into partnership with his brother in the present business, under the firm name of Neth Brothers. On July 5, 1898, Mr. Neth was married to Miss Maude Downey, a daughter of George Downey, and they have had six children, namely: Lee, who died aged seven years; Grace; Gladys; Juanita, who died aged twenty-two months; Frances and Irene Etoile.

Both members of the above firm understand business principles and their own line of work in particular, and they are numbered with Covington's best and most prosperous dealers in what is, no less than bread, one of the staffs of life. Doing their own butchering, they can assure their customers of the quality of the meat they sell them and the large trade they enjoy shows that this is appreciated.

GEORGE R. McCONNELL, who has attained wide prominence in insurance circles in the state of Ohio, has been engaged in that business at Troy since 1888. He also is president of the Troy Wagon Works Company, and a director of the Troy Star Storm Front Company, the Troy Telephone Company and various other leading enterprises, being one of the foremost business citizens of the city. Mr. McConnell was born in Hancock County, Ohio, in 1862, but was reared and educated at Van Wert, Ohio. Early in life he started in the insurance business at Paulding, Ohio, and in 1888 located at Troy. He represents practically all the leading fire insurance companies, and as fire insurance adjuster for Ohio has visited all parts of the state in adjusting losses.

November 26, 1885, Mr. McConnell was joined in marriage with Miss Olive N. Hook of Van Wert, and they have a son, Glen G. McConnell, who is in attendance at Dartmouth College. Fraternally, George R. McConnell is affiliated with the Blue Lodge, F. & A. M., Knights Templar, and Knights of Pythias. Religiously, he and his family attend the Methodist Episcopal Church.

MISS ELIZABETH SHEETS, whose valuable farm of 120 acres lies in Section 23, Elizabeth Township, belongs to an old and prominent family of Miami County, one which has been established here for several generations. Miss Sheets was born in Elizabeth Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a daughter of Isaac S. and Nancy (Knoop) Sheets.

Andrew Sheets, the grandfather, was one of the early land owners in Elizabeth Township. He married Catherine Sills and they had a family of eleven children, of whom five died in childhood. The remaining six, who reached middle life, were: Isaac S.; Catharine, who married Samuel Youart; Elizabeth, who married William Saunders; Nancy, who married Michael Knoop; Eve, who married Samuel Sherrill; and Sarah, who became the wife of William Fuller. Isaac S. Sheets was a prominent farmer and for many years a valued citizen of Elizabeth Township. He was born January 10, 1799, and died in September, 1876. In June, 1824, he married Nancy Knoop, who was a member of probably the first family that ever settled in Miami County, far back in its earliest days. Mrs. Isaac S. Sheets was a daughter of John and Barbara Knoop. Seven children were born to Isaac S. Sheets and wife, as follows: Elizabeth, Andrew, Mary, John, Barbara Jane, George M. and a babe that died.

Miss Elizabeth Sheets is a highly educated, cultured lady, obtaining her early education in the Scott school at Walnut Grove. Later she attended school at Troy, still later at Piqua and then became a student in the Cooper Female Academy at Dayton, completing her studies at Marietta, Ohio. She then returned home and engaged for some years in teaching school, finding much enjoyment in imparting knowledge to others. She taught the Scott School at Walnut Grove and taught at the home school, but after the death of her father she gave up teaching and returned to the homestead. One year later, when the home farm was divided, she received 120 acres, which is situated in Section 23. She immediately proved herself a woman of excellent business capacity, making many improvements on her land and putting up new and substantial buildings. She keeps an excellent tenant on the place. She also owns her comfortable residence in Miami City. She is an active and interested member of the Universalist Church at Miami City and serves both as a teacher and as superintendent of the Sunday-school. Personally Miss Sheets is a most interesting lady to meet. The family connection is large and in none of them are the social qualities more apparent.

J. W. DAVIS, who has long been prominently identified with the affairs of Troy, Ohio, has been a resident of the city since 1880, and is engaged in the real estate and insurance business at the present time. He was postmaster of Troy during the second administration of President Cleveland, receiving his appointment in 1893, and during his tenure of office had the distinction of sending out the largest amount of first class mail of any postmaster of the same class in the United States, 300 mail pouches being required for use in the local office. This supremacy brought the city into prominence throughout the country.

Mr. Davis was born in Tippecanoe City, Miami County, Ohio, in 1862, and was reared and educated at that place, being a graduate of the Tippecanoe High School. In 1880 he came to Troy and accepted a position as clerk with the wholesale and retail grocery firm of D. M. McCullough. After one year he entered the employ of C. L. Coolidge (dry goods, boots and shoes) in the capacity of bookkeeper and salesman, and so continued for three years. He next represented E. Levering & Company, coffee importers of Baltimore, Maryland, in the wholesale and retail trade through the states of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, continuing with that firm for seven years. He then became associated in business with Mr. C. T. Long, and under the name and style of Long & Davis they conducted a gentlemen's furnishings and fine tailoring establishment for a period of five years. In 1893 he was appointed postmaster, and upon his retirement from that office in 1897 he became associated with M. K. Gantz and George S. Long in the ownership of the Troy *Democrat,* which they conducted two years. Mr. Davis then embarked in the real estate and fire insurance business, with which he has since been successfully identified. He has always taken an active interest in politics and the success of the Democratic party, and has served as chairman of the executive committee of that party and as chief state supervisor of elections for Miami County.

In 1889 Mr. Davis was united in marriage with Miss Ellen Eliza Shilling, who comes of one of the pioneer families of Miami County and is the youngest daughter of Jesse Shilling Sr. One son, Brice Barron Davis, was born to them and died in infancy. Mr. Davis is past chancellor commander of the local lodge, Knights of Pythias; eminent commander of Coleman Commandery; and a member of Antioch Shrine, A. A. O. N. M. S., at Dayton.

JOSHUA HUSTON COTTINGHAM, one of Elizabeth Township's most respected retired farmers, resides on the farm on which he was born, November 30, 1828, this being a tract of 125 acres, located in Section 25, on the Tippecanoe City and Elizabeth Road, in Elizabeth Township, Miami County, Ohio. His parents were Joshua Enniss and Elizabeth (Harritt) Cottingham.

The Cottingham family came originally from England and the grandfather of Joshua H. Cottingham, William Cottingham, was born probably in Maryland or England. He married Mary Enniss, and in a few years moved to Kentucky; they subsequently came to Ohio and resided until death in a home at Dayton, situated about where Woodland Avenue now extends. They had five children, namely: Joshua, Nancy, Leah, James and William.

The father of Joshua H. Cottingham came to Miami City from Greene County, December 31, 1822. He was interested in agricultural pursuits all his life and acquired a farm of sixty-one acres in Elizabeth Township. For a number of years before the railroads were built he engaged in teaming, carrying produce frequently as far as Columbus and Dayton, this being very lucrative employment at that time. Stage coaches conveyed passengers, but all other transportation had to be done by the wagoners or teamsters. His father had built the brick house on the present farm in 1831, and here the father of Joshua H. Cottingham lived until his death, which occurred when he was aged eighty-six years. The house remains very much as it was in those days, little change having been made in the shape of the building when necessary repairs were made. The barn was built about 1858 and the present owner has added twenty-four feet to it.

Joshua Enniss Cottingham married Elizabeth Harritt, a daughter of Robert and Abigail Harritt, and to this union were born eight children, namely: Mary Leah, William, Robert, Abigail, James, Joshua H., Elizabeth and Louisa, all of whom are dead with the exception of Louisa and Joshua H.

Joshua H. Cottingham first went to what was known as the Kepper school, not far from his home, and when he grew older he went to school in Troy for one winter. He helped his father on the farm and also, after he was twenty-one, frequently worked for farmers in the neighborhood, and spent one year as a farmer in Indiana. After he came back to Miami County he married and then rented the Rose farm in Lost Creek Township, for one year, going from there to Mrs. Haywood's farm, in the Bottoms, from there to his father-in-law's farm. He then moved to Troy for a time, later went on the Teneick farm and then went back to the homestead and bought his father's farm of sixty-one acres, together with fifty acres from Jacob and John Mann. For many years thereafter Mr. Cottingham engaged in general farming and stock raising, and was considered one of the leading agriculturists of Elizabeth Township during his active years.

On February 14, 1856, Mr. Cottingham was married to Miss Elizabeth Bousman, a daughter of Leonard and Elizabeth (Jackson) Bousman, and they have two children: Milton A., who married Jennie, a daughter of Peter and Sarah Fair, of Tippecanoe City; and Freeman O., who married Laura E., daughter of William B. and Annie Widener. Mr. Cottingham attends and gives support to the Methodist Episcopal Church of Tippecanoe City. In politics he is a Republican and has served for some years as township trustee.

H. L. JOHNSTON, manager and chief engineer of the Hobart Electric Manufacturing Company, has been a resident of Troy, Ohio, for thirteen years. He was born at Bambridge, Indiana, in 1869, and was nine years of age when his parents moved to Cincinnati, Ohio.

Mr. Johnston attended the public schools of Cincinnati, and afterward pursued a course of study at the Ohio State University in electrical engineering, graduating with the class of 1892. He entered the employ of the General Electric Company, in the Cincinnati office, and continued in its service for three and a half years. In 1893 he represented that firm in the installation of the electrical work for the interurban railroad from Troy to Piqua, and continued here as superintendent of the work for six months. This was the third interurban road built in the State of Ohio, and the first to run big cars. After retiring from the superintendency Mr. Johnston became associated with Mr. Hobart in electrical manufacturing, the business being incorporated under the name of The Hobart Electric Company. He was vice-president and treasurer of the concern until about a year ago, when he was made manager and chief engineer. It is one of the principal manufacturing enterprises of the city and transacts an enormous business. Mr. Johnston is the mechanical expert of the Troy Sunshade Company, in which he is financially interested, and is the patentee of several valuable articles used by that firm.

In 1900 Mr. Johnston was united in marriage with Miss Adeline Smith, a daughter of D. W. Smith, cashier of the First National Bank of Troy, and they have two children, Edward and Frances. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Troy Club. In religious attachment he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church.

EUGENE JOHNSON, the leading real estate dealer at Piqua and the pioneer in the business, has been a resident of this city for twenty-seven years, during twenty of which he has been actively engaged in the real estate business. He was born in 1851, in Gallatin County, Kentucky, but was reared from the age of nine years at Waveland, Montgomery County, Ohio, where his parents settled.

Mr. Johnson was educated in the public schools and at Waveland Academy, an institution conducted under the supervision of the Presbyterian Church. In early manhood he went to Kansas, where he looked up land claims for two years. After he returned to Ohio he engaged in the drug business at Waveland until he was twenty-two years old, removing then to Noblesville, Indiana. He continued in the drug line there until he came to Piqua, in 1881, where he carried on the same business for six years. He then turned his attention to the real estate business and has done considerable building and selling and has platted some 600 lots. He confines his activities to city and farm property. When he entered into the business at Piqua a real estate agency was a new venture, and he has been the practical builder of this line of trade. In his own operations he has never had a bad title given through his office and there has never been a foreclosure of a loan. He has negotiated for the larger number of Piqua's numerous factories, his latest contract relating to the immense plant to be erected by the Felt and Blanket Company, on South Main Street, during the summer of 1909. Among the other large transactions of this nature negotiated through him may be mentioned the sites of the Wood, Shovel & Tool Company, Miami Light, Heat & Power Company, Union Underwear Company, Atlas Underwear Company, Piqua Furniture Company, Dayton & Troy street car barn, Piqua Dyeing & Bleaching Company, the DeArmon-McKinney Cement Block Company and the Colonial Saxony, Piqua's handsomest flat building. He has also had direct charge of the platting or subdivision of out lots of eleven additions to the city. At different times, also, he has been interested in other enterprises of more or less importance. A Democrat in politics, his interest in public matters is only that of a good citizen who desires the election of the best qualified candidates and the assurance of good government.

In 1879, in Noblesville, Indiana, Mr. Johnson was married to Miss Ally Loehr, and they have two children, Kate and Ray, the latter a resident of California. Mr. Johnson is a member of the Presbyterian Sunday-school and has been a trustee of the church for six years; for more than twenty years he has been a teacher in the Sunday-school. He is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity.

ROBERT S. SCOTT, for many years a prominent agriculturist of Miami County, Ohio, is now living in retirement in the city of Troy. He was born in Elizabeth Township, Miami County, in March, 1832, and is a son of John Scott, who first came to the county as early as 1820.

John Scott was born in Pennsylvania, and there learned the trade of a millwright. Upon coming to Miami County, Ohio, he resumed his trade and became a very useful citizen, being at various periods identified with many of the old mills in this and adjoining counties. The latter years of his life were spent on the farm. He was one of the first abolitionists in the county, and for years was the only one to vote the Free Soil ticket in Elizabeth Township.

Robert S. Scott has always lived in Miami County, and his business has always been that of a farmer. He was in 1856 united in marriage with Miss Rebecca Hearst, who was born in Pennsylvania and was in childhood when her parents moved to Miami County, Ohio. Her death occurred in 1878. Mr. Scott formed a second union with Miss Rebecca Wharton, who was born in Miami County, and is a daughter of Oliver and Jane (Duer) Wharton.

Oliver Wharton, father of Mrs. Scott, was born in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, May 17, 1807, and was four years old when his parents moved west to Warren County, Ohio, where they took rank among the pioneers. There he was reared and educated, and at the age of fourteen years began learning the trade of a wheelwright. He served an apprenticeship of seven years and then opened a shop of his own. He continued there until 1836, when he moved to Fletcher, in Miami County, Ohio, and established a successful business. He continued at Fletcher until 1865, when he moved upon his farm in Brown Township and spent the declining years of his life. He was married to Miss Jane Duer, who was born in Pennsylvania, but was living in Warren County, Ohio, at the time of her marriage. Two sons and two daughters were the issue of this union, namely: William, Samuel, Phebe and Rebecca (Scott).

Mr. and Mrs. Scott are parents of three sons: Robert Stanley; Alva Wharton, deputy surveyor of Miami County; and Ernest H., who is an electrician by profession. Religiously they are members of the First Presbyterian Church of Troy, of which Mr. Scott is an elder. Politically he is a Republican.

JOHN A. NUNLIST, proprietor of the City Hotel at Tippecanoe City, Miami County, Ohio, has been in the hotel business for a period of thirty-five years, which in length of time makes him the oldest man in that business in the county. He was born in Nieder Erlinsbach, Kanton Solothurn, Switzerland, December 5, 1844, and is a son of Victor and Catherine (Buser) Nunlist, both natives of Switzerland.

Victor Nunlist moved with his family to the United States in 1860, arriving in New York City after a voyage lasting several weeks. They immediately afterward moved west to Berlin, Shelby County, Ohio, where Mrs. Nunlist died in 1861, at the age of forty-three years. He died on a farm in Shelby County in 1865, aged forty-five years. They were parents of the following children, all but the youngest of whom were born in Switzerland: John A. of Tippecanoe City; David, deceased; Lena, wife of John Shaper of Dayton, Ohio; William, a resident of Dayton; Emil, who lives at Springfield, Ohio; Albert, also of Springfield; Elizabeth, who married Charles Stuby and lives at Springfield, Ohio; and three daughters who entered convents and became Sisters of Charity. Only one of these sisters is now living and is located at Phœnix, Arizona.

John A. Nunlist worked on a farm with his father until 1862, then on May 2 of that year enlisted for service in the Union Army as a member of Company C, One Hundred and Eighteenth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He enlisted at Sidney, Ohio, and was sent with the regiment to Kentucky. He remained in the service until June, 1863, when his father secured his release owing to the fact that he had entered the army before he had reached the required age. He returned home and the same year located at Tippecanoe City, where he learned the trade of a butcher, being in the employ of Fred Huber until 1871. He then started up a shop of his own and conducted it successfully until

1874, when on August 1 he embarked in the hotel business. In 1878 he purchased the City Hotel and has conducted the establishment with uninterrupted success ever since. He has a well equipped and furnished hotel, and its popularity is easily explained after one has been entertained for a meal and enjoyed Mr. Nunlist's hospitality. He has acquired much valuable property in Tippecanoe City and is one of its heaviest taxpayers. He has been identified with all measures and enterprises for the upbuilding of the place and is most highly esteemed as a citizen. He is a fancier of good stock and has raised many standard-bred roadsters and good draft horses.

June 19, 1871, Mr. Nunlist was united in marriage with Miss Julia Messmer of Tippecanoe City, and they became parents of the following children: Mamie, who married Jacob Hand, Jr., of Dayton, and has a daughter, Cecelia Hand; Lulu, who married A. W. Taylor, a grocer and liveryman of Tippecanoe City, and has a son, John Nunlist Taylor; Frank David, who is associated in business with his father; and Edward Frederick, who conducts a plumbing business in Tippecanoe City. The last-named married Miss Bertha Prill, and they have a daughter, Catherine. Religiously the family belongs to St. John's Catholic Church. Mr. Nunlist is a Democrat in politics.

N. W. CADY, a veteran of the Civil War and for many years a leading educator in Eastern Ohio, who now lives retired in his pleasant home on West Market Street, Troy, was born in 1837, in Morrow County, Ohio, where he was reared and educated. His first self-supporting occupation was teaching, which he followed for three years in the Morrow County schools, and subsequently for the same length of time in those of Champaign County. He was teaching in the St. Paris school when the first gun was fired in the Civil War and he was the first volunteer from St. Paris in the three months' service.

In 1861 he enlisted for three years, becoming a member of Company I, Forty-second Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, having Col. James A. Garfield commanding, and during the three and one-half years of hard service he took part in the following serious and decisive battles: Middle Creek, Kentucky; Chickasaw Bayou, Black River; Arkansas Post, Arkansas; Thompson Hill, Champion Hill, Vicksburg, Jackson and Opelousas, Louisiana, together with many minor engagements. Mr. Cady served as sergeant of his company and although he was ever at the post of duty he survived all the dangers of camp and field and returned safely to his home after being mustered out in 1864.

Mr. Cady came then to Miami County and engaged in teaching, and spent fully twelve years in educating work in Miami and Champaign Counties, a part of the time being superintendent of the township schools. In 1896 he took up his residence at his present location in Troy, his pleasant home being so situated that he can enjoy the benefits of city life with a rural environment.

In 1861 Mr. Cady was married to Miss Anna Mott, who was born in Miami County. Her father, Josiah Mott, was born in Warren County, Ohio, and came to Miami County when a young man. Mr.

and Mrs. Cady have six children, all daughters and all ladies of culture and high educational attainment, namely: Zella, who has been successful in educational work for some twenty-three years; Nettie, who was a teacher for four years prior to her marriage to Elwood French of Oklahoma; Mary, who is the wife of Charles Armstrong of Marysville; Harriet, who taught school eight years before she married Frank French, a resident of Texas; Alice, who taught for seven years and then married Joseph H. Levering of Miami County; and Elfie, who is teaching her third year in the Miami County schools.

Mr. Cady has been an active citizen, taking an earnest interest in public affairs and lending his influence to all that has served to uplift the community. He has served as a justice of the peace and as assessor. He belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic, and is a member of the Universalist Church.

FRANK E. D. KEPLINGER, secretary and treasurer of the Pioneer Pole and Shaft Company of Piqua, and additionally interested in other business enterprises of importance, was born in 1867, at Fort Wayne, Indiana, where he was reared and educated.

Mr. Keplinger's first work was done in the supply department of the Pennsylvania Railroad, where he was employed for two years as a clerk, after which he was engaged for six years as bookkeeper in the First National Bank at Fort Wayne and subsequently for four years was assistant postmaster in that city. Mr. Keplinger then served two years as traveling auditor for the Fort Wayne Electrical Corporation. He then came to Ohio and embarked in the manufacture of poles and shafts, at Canton, where he owned a factory in connection with his brothers, C. W. and W. E. Keplinger, and he continued there until he became Secretary and Treasurer of the Pioneer Pole and Shaft Company in 1903, when he came to Piqua. He is a stockholder and director in the Metropolitan Paving Brick Company, of Canton, and also a stockholder and director in the Imperial Rubber Company. He is a man of acknowledged business ability and occupies a prominent place in the commercial life of Piqua.

In 1890 Mr. Keplinger was married to Miss Clara Douglas Bond, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, and they have one son, Livingstone Bond, who is a student in the University of Wisconsin, at Madison. Mr. Keplinger and family are members of the Episcopal Church. He is identified with the Masonic bodies at Piqua and belongs also to the Piqua Club.

JAMES HARRISON ESTEY, general farmer and tobacco grower, residing on his fertile farm of seventy-two acres, which is situated in Section 25, Elizabeth Township, Miami County, was born near Conover, Miami County, Ohio, December 11, 1840. His parents were Michael and Mary (Swindler) Estey.

David Estey, the grandfather, was an early settler in Miami County. He entered 160 acres from the Government, getting a sheepskin deed for the same. This land was situated four miles northwest of Casstown and his life was spent in agricultural pursuits. He married Mary

Knoop and they had a family of nine children, as follows: Michael, James, Charles, George, William, Jotham, Mary, Lucy and Myra.

Michael Estey, father of James H., resided at home on his father's farm until after his wife's death. She left four children: Silas Virgil, who died while serving as a soldier in the Civil War; James Harrison; Emily J., who married Silas French, and Alda Zera, who married Joseph French. In the spring of 1852, Michael Estey went to California and later to Montana, following mining for about two years, and then settled on a farm in Jasper County, Missouri, where he resided during the remainder of his life, being about eighty-five years old at the time of his death. He married a lady of Jasper County after locating there and the children of his second union still live in Missouri.

James H. Estey was a little boy when his mother died and he soon went to live with a Mr. Blaker, with whom he made his home until he entered the army. He first attended the Jones school, which was a log house in Lost Creek Township, and later had somewhat better advantages in the Lost Creek school, which was situated two and one-half miles north of Casstown. He had not much more than reached manhood when the Civil War was declared and he enlisted in Company A, Forty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, serving for three years and ten months. He took part in many important engagements, including Lewisburg, West Virginia, and Knoxville, Tennessee, in the almost continuous skirmishing which was more dangerous than real fighting. He received a wound about his ankle, in one meeting with the enemy, which not only prevented active service for about four months, but continued to afflict him for many years, never completely cured. When the war closed he returned to the old home above Casstown and remained there until his marriage in the spring of 1869, after which he went to Idaho and there followed mining for a year, after which he rented a farm in Boise Valley. Later he joined his father in Jasper County, Missouri, and remained there for some years, but subsequently returned to Miami County to make this section his permanent home. He purchased seventy-two acres of fertile land, with house and barn standing, from John Greer, and here Mr. Estey has been engaged ever since. A branch of the New York Central Railroad runs through his property. He has a fine orchard and his land will produce any crop, but he devotes the larger part of it to tobacco and has put up sheds to take care of it when harvested. He has done quite a great deal of improving since purchasing this land and has a very valuable farm.

Mr. Estey was married in 1869, to Miss Debby Roe, a daughter of John and Mary Roe, and they have one daughter, Elsie M., who is the wife of William F. Bohlender, residing in Tippecanoe City. Mr. Estey and family belong to the English Luthern Church at Tippecanoe City, in which he has been a deacon for two years. He is also a member of the D. M. Rouser Post, G. A. R., of that place, which is two and one-half miles west of his farm. He is a stanch Republican in his political views but takes no active part in politics in his township, having no desire to hold office.

SAMUEL McCURDY is a prosperous farmer and well known resident of Concord Township, Miami County, Ohio, where he is the owner of two farms, consisting of 272 acres in all. He was born in Ireland in 1849 and is a son of Samuel and Eliza (Barr) McCurdy.

Samuel McCurdy, Sr., was born in Ireland and there engaged in agricultural pursuits until about the year 1850, when he moved with his wife and children to the United States. They crossed the water in a sailing vessel, the voyage consuming five or six weeks, and locating at Allentown, Pennsylvania, where Mr. McCurdy was employed in the iron works for some three years. He then moved west to Troy, Ohio, before the days of railroads, making the trip down the Ohio River to Cincinnati, thence north by the canal to Troy. He there engaged in pumping water for the railroad, which had just been completed through Troy, and during the three years he was thus employed he missed but a day and a half. He bought a farm of eighty acres in Concord Township, on which his daughter, Nancy, now lives, and with the help of his sons cleared the place. He farmed there until his death in 1894, at the age of eighty-eight years. His wife preceded him to the grave, dying at the age of eighty years. They were parents of the following children, all of whom were born in Ireland: Robert; Isabella, wife of John Sype, both deceased; Eliza, who was the wife of William Fleming, both now deceased; Jane, widow of Robert Pearson; Margaret, widow of John Minton; Nancy; Samuel, whose name heads this record; and two who died in infancy.

Samuel McCurdy, Jr., was about one year old when his parents came to this country from Ireland, and was quite young when they located on the farm in Concord Township. He has ever since lived within site of the old home, which place he helped to clear. He attended the public schools when not at hard work on the farm, and lived with his father until his marriage in 1871, then for a few years rented and farmed. He later bought a tract of forty acres, to which he added in time, but in 1890 he sold out and purchased his present home farm on the Troy and Covington Pike from the Correy heirs. He has made extensive improvements on the place and followed general farming with a high degree of success.

December 28, 1871, Mr. McCurdy was united in marriage with Susan Correy, who was born and reared on the farm on which she now lives and is a daughter of Robert and Rebecca (Eaton) Correy, of Concord Township. They became parents of the following children: Charles, who died at the age of twenty-two years; Samuel H., of Troy, who married Sarah Stewart and has three children—Ralph, Myrtle, and Fred; John, of Concord Township, who married Ella Longendelpher, and has a daughter, Helen; Joseph; Mary; Jennie; Rosa; Bessie; William, and Walter. Politically Mr. McCurdy is a Democrat.

DAVID W. TOBIAS, who has efficiently filled the arduous position of railway mail clerk for a period of fifteen years, is now employed as such on the Panhandle Railroad, between Indianapolis and Pittsburg. He was born on a farm to the north of Covington, March 28, 1859, and is a son of Elias and Elizabeth (Wenrick) Tobias.

Elias Tobias was born in Berks County,

Penna. In boyhood he came to Ohio and lived for a short time in Montgomery County and then came to Newberry Township, Miami County. He married Elizabeth Wenrick, who was born in Franklin County, Penna., and accompanied her parents to near Covington, Miami County, in girlhood. To this marriage four children were born, namely: Reuben, who died in infancy; Rebecca, who is the wife of George Rench, of Covington; David W.; and Samuel, who lives at Piqua. In 1867 Elias Tobias bought 102 acres of farm land at Greenville Falls, west of Covington, and resided there until 1902, when he retired to Covington, where his death occurred May 12, 1908. His wife had died November 18, 1884. They were most worthy people, respected and esteemed by all who knew them.

David W. Tobias was educated in the public schools and in 1877 he graduated from the Covington High School, after which he engaged in teaching for some nine years and was considered an efficient instructor. During the next five years he traveled for a nursery, selling nursery stock and when he retired from that accepted the superintendency of a creamery near Covington, for about a year. Then he entered the mail service and is now one one the best trained and most reliable men on the line. He owns a share in the home farm, which is still in his father's name.

October 31, 1880, Mr. Tobias was married to Miss Hulda Cassel, a daughter of John and Susan (Hartzell) Cassel, the former of whom was a farmer in Newberry Township, where he died February 24, 1887. Mrs. Cassel still survives, although she has outlived many of her contemporaries. She was born February 23, 1819, and is one of the most venerable residents of Miami County. Mr. and Mrs. Tobias have two children: Erla, who married W. W. Chaffin, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, and has one son, Wendell Tobias; and Luther, who resides at Covington. Mr. Tobias belongs to the Order of Odd Fellows.

C. F. CLASS is a prominent farmer of Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is the owner of 154 acres of valuable land, eighty-two acres of which is in the farm on which he lives. He was born near Trotwood, in Montgomery County, Ohio, February 22, 1857, and is a son of Jacob and Louisa (Klopfer) Class.

Jacob Class was born in Wittenberg, Germany, and was eighteen years old when he accompanied his parents to the United States. His father bought a farm near Trotwood, Montgomery County, Ohio, and also owned considerable land in Miami County. After his marriage, Jacob Class located on a farm in Randolph Township, Montgomery County, where he continued to reside until 1869, in which year he moved to the vicinity of the Fall Branch schoolhouse, in Newton Township, Miami County. He cleared a great deal of the land owned by his father, as well as his own farm, and continued to reside there until his death, in December, 1890. His wife died in October, 1868, and both were buried in the Pleasant Hill Cemetery. He was married to Louisa Klopfer, a daughter of John and Elizabeth Klopfer, and they reared the following children: Philip, C. F. (subject of this record), John, Jacob, Louisa, and Isaac. Religiously they were members of the Lutheran Church.

C. F. Class attended the Fall Branch

MRS. LAURA K. CLASS

C. F. CLASS

school and continued to help his father on the home farm until he became of age, when he began working out by the month. After his marriage he farmed his father's place for one year, and then moved to his present home farm. He cleared about two-thirds of his land, which was heavily timbered, laid about 400 rods of tile for drainage, and made other important improvements. He has a complete set of substantial buildings on his land, all of which he has had built, as the place was entirely unimproved at the time of his coming. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and devotes about thirty acres of his land each year to tobacco growing, at which he has met with much success. He is a substantial and progressive business man, and among his other interests is a stockholder in the Pleasant Hill Banking Company.

April 22, 1879, Mr. Class was joined in marriage with Miss Laura Kinnison, a daughter of George and Elizabeth Kinnison, and they became parents of the following children: Elsie, deceased; Pearl, wife of Howard Furnas, of Dayton; Ola, wife of Opal Rench; Goldie, wife of Samuel Evervine; Sylvia; and Ica. Religiously they attend the Lutheran Church. In fraternal affiliation Mr. Class is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Pleasant Hill. He is a Democrat in politics.

DR. WARREN COLEMAN, senior member of the well known medical firm of Coleman & Shilling, whose offices are located at No. 201 West Water Street, Troy, Ohio, was born in this city, September 22, 1865, son of Dr. Horace and Mary L. (Aldrich) Coleman. His paternal grandfather also, Dr. Asa Coleman, was a leading physician in his day.

Dr. Horace Coleman, father of the subject of this sketch, was a man of good education, and a graduate of the Medical College of Ohio in the class of '49. He began medical practice in 1850 at Logansport, Indiana, and remained there until October, 1861, at which time he entered the Federal army. He served as surgeon of the Forty-sixth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and subsequently of the One Hundred Forty-seventh Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, continuing until the close of the war. He afterwards settled in Troy, Ohio, where he became the leading physician and surgeon. He was also prominent in local politics and for a number of years was assessor of internal revenue for the Fourth District of Ohio. He also served on the City Council and was for some time president of the Board of Education. He was one of the board of directors, also, of the First National Bank of Troy. In 1868 he was a delegate to the Republican convention at Chicago, which nominated Grant and Colfax for president and vice-president of the United States. He has attained an advanced degree in the Masonic Order. At the present time he is residing in Washington, D. C. By his marriage to Mary L. Aldrich, which took place November 9, 1847, he became the father of seven children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the youngest.

Warren Coleman, M. D., the date of whose nativity has been already given, acquired his literary education in the grammar and high schools of Troy, Ohio. He subsequently graduated from the Medical College of Ohio in the class of '88 and began the practice of his profession in

Troy. In November, 1904, he formed the present medical partnership of Coleman & Shilling, which has proved a happy combination both from a business and a professional standpoint.

Dr. Coleman married Miss Francis Rinehart, a daughter of C. F. Rinehart. He is a member of the County, State, and American Medical Associations. In Politics he is a stanch Republican. Mrs. Coleman is a member of the Presbyterian church. They have a pleasant home at the corner of Main and Adams Streets, Troy.

JOHN L. PRUGH, cashier of the Piqua Savings Bank and formerly treasurer of Miami County, has been a representative and useful citizen throughout his entire mature life. He was born in 1855, in Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio.

Jesse Prugh, the father of John L. Prugh, was one of Miami County's prominent men and for many years was very active in all public affairs. He was a native of Maryland and when he came to Ohio, in boyhood, lived first in Montgomery County and from there came to Miami County, settling in Newberry Township, where he cleared up a farm from the wilderness. He was a strong Abolitionist and was one of the founders of the Republican party in this section, and when Civil War was declared, he gave his most earnest efforts to the raising of troops and providing for the necessities of those families whose bread-earners left for the battle field. He was commissioned a recruiting officer with the rank of lieutenant colonel, and the county records bear testimony to the success of his efforts. He died in 1894.

John L. Prugh enjoyed the educational advantages offered by the common schools of Newberry Township and the Piqua High School and his first business association led him into the clothing line and in this he continued for twenty-five years, a part of the time in connection with Mr. Flesh, under the firm style of Flesh & Prugh. In 1896 Mr. Prugh was elected treasurer of Miami County and was reelected to that office in 1898 and served through the two terms with the greatest efficiency. After retiring from public life, in 1901, he accepted the position of cashier of the Piqua Savings Bank, his recognition as a financier being general.

In 1876 Mr. Prugh was married to Miss Mate L. Rayner, a daughter of Joseph Rayner, an old and prominent resident of Piqua. Mr. and Mrs. Prugh have three children, namely: Estella, who is the wife of J. F. Stewart, assistant manager of the U. S. Handle Company, resides at Piqua; Florence is a successful teacher in the public schools of Piqua; Ray is a student in the Ohio Wesleyan College, at Delaware, Ohio. Mr. Prugh and family are members of the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he has served on the official board for twenty years, a longer period than is credited to any other officer. He was one of the incorporators of the Y. M. C. A., at Piqua and has always been deeply interested in its work. Mr. Prugh is identified fraternally with the Masons and Odd Fellows.

CORY HARRISON NOLAN, general farmer and well known citizen of Staunton Township, resides on his well improved farm of forty-one acres, which is situated on the Sidney Road, about two and one-half miles north of Troy. He was born January 12, 1868, on his father's farm in Staunton Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Michael and Phebe Kathryn (Conrad) Nolan.

The ancestors of the Nolan family came to America from Ireland. The grandfather, Israel Nolan, was the first of the family to come to this county. He worked as a weaver for a time in Cincinnati, Ohio, and then settled on a farm in Miami County, two miles east of the present Nolan farm. He had seven children, namely: John, James, Daniel, Michael, Elizabeth, Hannah and Sarah, all of whom are deceased.

Michael Nolan, father of Cory H., was born in 1818, in Miami County, Ohio, where the greater part of his life was spent. In 1849 he went to California by way of the plains and remained in the gold regions for three years. He became the owner of a mine and met with more success than did many other prospectors, and when he returned to Miami County he possessed enough capital to purchase a cleared farm of eighty acres, situated three miles northeast of Troy, in Staunton Township, on the Urbana Turnpike Road. He resided on that farm for seven years and then bought a farm of 101 acres and later disposed of his eighty-acre farm. This land was formerly the property of Hiram Smith. It lay about one mile north of his first purchase, near the De Weese schoolhouse. Eight years later he bought the eighty acres which is now the old homestead, but was the Eckert Shaffer farm, and also a farm of 101 acres adjoining his other 101 acres. He was an excellent business man and carried on blacksmithing in connection with his farming. He died in June, 1889. He married Phebe Kathryn (Conrad) Kaw, a widow, who had one child, Caroline K. To this marriage were born six children, namely: Emma; John; Elizabeth, who is the wife of Charles Waters; Cory Harrison; Hattie, who is the wife of Marc Kurtz; and Nora. The mother still survives and resides on the home place.

Cory H. Nolan was about one year old when the family moved to the second farm and eight years old when his father came into possession of the old homestead. He attended the country schools and remained at home until his marriage. For a short time after this event, he resided on his father-in-law's place, but in the following year, December 3, 1897, he moved to his present farm, which he had bought from the John C. Winans estate. Here he carries on farming and devotes eight acres to tobacco growing and six to potatoes. He erected a large tobacco shed on his property and he disposes of his cured tobacco to local dealers. His comfortable 12-room house was on the property when he bought it but he has considerably improved and added to the other farm buildings.

Mr. Nolan was married December 16, 1896, to Miss Grace P. Speagh, a daughter of Lewis L. and Sarah C. (Marshall) Speagh, who was a graduate of the Troy High School class of 1892, and they have two children—Mary Catharine Speagh and John William. Mr. and Mrs. Nolan are members of Raper Chapel, Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Nolan is superintendent of the Sunday School. In politics he is a Republican and as a man of intelligence he is much interested in all that concerns his county and especially in the public matters in which his own community plays a part.

JOHN FENEMORE, a representative business man of Covington, who has been actively identified with the commercial life of this city for almost a quarter of a century, is a member of the well known firm of Ruhl & Fenemore, clothiers and gents' furnishers. Mr. Fenemore was born in England, January 15, 1842, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Rose) Fenemore.

Mr. Fenemore was thirty-two years of age when he left his native land. After reaching America he spent one year at St. Louis, Missouri, working at his trade of tailor, after which he came to Ohio and was employed by Henry Flesh, of Piqua, for two years, and then established his permanent home at Covington. Here he worked until 1884, for A. Routson, and then, in partnership with Albertus M. Ruhl, purchased the clothing business of Fahnestock Brothers, and since then the firm of Ruhl & Fenemore has been one of importance in the business circles of Covington. Mr. Fenemore was married in England, in 1870, to Miss Elizabeth Catherine Bacon, and they had one son, John Henry, who died at Piqua, in infancy. Mr. Fenemore is a member of the Presbyterian Church. He is identified fraternally with the Knights of Pythias.

MELVILLE W. MILLER, of the firm of Spencer & Miller, operating grain elevators at Piqua and extensive dealers in grain, is one of the representative business men of this city and one who has had a large experience in this particular line. He was born in 1868, at Carey, Wyandot County, Ohio, from which place his parents moved when he was four years old, to Monroe, Michigan, where he was reared and educated.

Mr. Miller started out in commercial life as a grocery clerk and after some experience went to Detroit and there became connected with the Standard Insurance Company, with which he was identified for seven years. He then came to Piqua and for some years was in the grain business with the Eagle mills, after which, in partnership with his brother-in-law, George Harrey, started the Champion Feed Mills, which they operated for ten years. In 1901 Mr. Miller entered into partnership with Mr. Spencer, under the firm name of Spencer & Miller, and they operate an elevator in Piqua and one three miles south of the city and do a large business.

In 1892 Mr. Miller was married to Miss May Louise Bates, of Piqua, and they have two children, Donald D. and Melville S. Mr. and Mrs. Miller are members of the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he is secretary of the official board. Fraternal life has attractions for him and he is identified with the Odd Fellows, the Maccabees and the Masons, in the latter organization belonging to the Blue Lodge and Chapter, being past worshipful of the former and the present high priest of the latter. Socially he is connected with the Cosmopolitan Club.

J. NELSON CONWAY, proprietor of the Conway Laundry at Piqua, a model institution of its kind, was born at Piqua in 1867, son of Captain John and Sarah Jane (Manson) Conway. On his mother's side, as will presently be seen, he is of Revolutionary ancestry.

Capt. John Conway, father of the subject of this sketch, was a native of Pennsylvania, who became a resident of Piqua prior to the Civil War. For a number of years he was captain of a canal boat and was well known to the canal and river trade. Later he engaged in the transfer and storage business, and he introduced the first covered transfer vans ever seen in this city, and in Miami County. His death occurred in 1902.

Capt. Conway was married in 1863 to Sarah Jane Manson, a daughter of James Nelson and Sarah (Harvey) Manson, the former of whom died August 15, 1870, and the latter December 27, 1900. Her great grandfather was David Manson, Sr., who was born in County Antrim, Ireland, in October, 1753, and came to America prior to the Revolutionary War. In July, 1776, he enlisted from York, Pennsylvania, for two months, as private, in Captain Savage's Company, Colonel Smith commanding. He re-enlisted in September, 1776, for three and a half months, in Capt. W. W. Cosby's -Company, Colonel McAllister's Regiment. He enlisted again, in January, 1778, for two months, in Capt. John Rippy's Company, Colonel McAllister's Regiment. During his service in the Revolutionary War, he was for some time a private in the body guard of General Washington.

He was married February 1, 1780, in York, Penna., to Jean Johnston, and in 1807 they came to Miami County, Ohio. He died in 1836, and is buried in the cemetery attached to the Brown schoolhouse, eighteen miles east of Piqua.

David Manson, Jr., son of the foregoing and next in the present line of descent, married Miss Sarah Cornwall, September 11, 1810. He and his wife resided on a farm three miles northeast of Piqua, in Springfield Township. He was a surveyor by profession, and during the winter of 1822-23 he took a severe cold, while on a surveying expedition, which developed into pneumonia and caused his death April 25, 1823. At this time his youngest child, Martha, was but a few months old. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, enlisting from Miami County as a private in Capt. John Williams' Company, Major Henry Prince's Regiment of Ohio Militia. His wife, Mrs. Sarah Cornwall Manson, died in 1838. Their son, James Nelson Manson, maternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a grand nephew of Gen. Mahlon Dickerson Manson.

Capt. John and Sarah J. (Manson) Conway were the parents of three children, namely: Mattie, who married H. M. Alexander, of Piqua, and died in March, 1905; J. Nelson, and William.

J. Nelson Conway grew to manhood in his native city of Piqua, attending the public schools, including the high school, of which he is a graduate. He then became associated with his father in the transfer business and thus continued for several years, after which he accepted a position as a driver of a laundry wagon, which was his introduction to the business in which he has since been so successful. After some experience under several different employers, he entered into the laundry business for himself, with a partner, and conducted it for two years and a half under the style of Morton & Conway. He then purchased his partner's interest and has been the sole proprietor ever since. He purchased the building at No. 112-114 E. Ash Street and has equipped it with the most modern machinery known to the laundry trade, having now one of the best and most up-to-date plants of the kind to be found in all this section. He gives employment to four men and twelve girls, and the quality of the work he turns out is unexcelled.

In 1906 Mr. Conway was married to Miss Gertrude Raney, of Piqua, Ohio. Fraternally he belongs to the Elks and the Knights of Pythias. He is one of Piqua's most representative and go-ahead business men.

GEORGE DREES, one of Covington's representative business men, dealing in groceries, meats, fish and oysters, has been established on the corner of High and Spring Streets, Covington, for the past sixteen years. He was born at Covington, Ohio, February 15, 1861, and is a son of Henry and Agnes (Neth) Drees.

Henry Drees, who is at the head of the dry goods and notion house of Henry Drees & Son, is one of the old and substantial business men of Covington. He was born in the Kingdom of Prussia, in August, 1833 and remained in his native land until he had almost reached his majority, in the meanwhile attending the German schools and learning the tailor's trade. On August 2, 1854, he landed at Quebec, Canada, made his way from there to Cleveland, Ohio, and then came to Covington, where he ran a tailor shop prior to establishing his present business, in 1863. In 1893 he associated his son, J. Henry, with him and the present firm style was adopted. He married Agnes Neth, who was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, September 25, 1835, and she accompanied her parents to America in 1854 and came to Covington in 1855. To Mr. and Mrs. Drees were born the following children: Rose, who is the wife of William Deubner, of Greenville, Ohio; George, of Covington; J. Henry, of the firm of Henry Drees & Son; William, who operates a sawmill and coal yard at Covington; Agnes, who is the widow of George Brooks; Conrad F., who is a soap and talcum powder manufacturer at Covington; Mrs. Kate Motter; and Paul, who resides at Covington.

George Drees was reared in his native place and attended the public schools and he began to work before he had completed his education, being employed by his uncle, Casper Brinkman, on a farm near Covington, and many a vacation hour was spent in farm duties. When he was fourteen years of age he began to learn the mercantle business, first with his father and later with Drees, Neth & Company, and later went into the wholesale and retail lumber business for himself. In this enterprise he prospered and continued it for some four years and then turned his attention in the present direction, establishing a business which is one of importance at Covington. Mr. Drees was married (first) to Miss Anna Kraighbaum, who left two sons at death: Harold and Donald. His second marriage was to Miss Lulu Brown, and one daughter survives her, Helen.

Mr. Drees has been an active and useful citizen and has served as a member of the City Council for more than twelve years. He has also served as chief of the Volunteer Fire Department and for eleven years he was a member of Company E, Third Ohio National Guard, and was drum major, with the rank of sergeant, of the regimental band. He is social by nature and has numerous fraternal connections, these including membership in the Masons, Knights of Pythias, Odd Fellows and Encampment, Rebeccas, Red Men and the Order of Pocahontas.

HORACE COLEMAN, M. D., whose many years of successful professional life at Troy gave him a place of prominence in medical circles in Miami County, but who is now a resident of Washington, D. C., was born December 27, 1824, at Troy, Miami County, Ohio, and was a son of Dr. Asa Coleman, a leading physician in his day. He enjoyed superior educational advantages and completed his literary studies at Gambier, Ohio. Partaking of his father's scientific tastes, he turned his attention to the study of medicine and under his father's supervision completed his preparatory reading, then entering the Medical College of Ohio, where he was graduated in 1849. In the early part of 1850 he opened up a practice at Logansport, Indiana, where he remained until October, 1861. He then entered the Federal army as surgeon of the Forty-sixth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, in which he served for nearly three years. In May, 1864, he became surgeon of the One Hundred Forty-seventh Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and so continued until the close of the war. His experiences during this period served but to better qualify him for the practice of his profession, and after his return to Troy he easily became the leading physician and surgeon of his native city.

Aside from his professional life, Dr. Coleman was intimately connected with the public affairs of city, county, and State. After his return to Troy he was appointed assessor of internal revenue for the Fourth District of Ohio, and was retained in office until the revenue system was reorganized. He was connected with a number of local organizations, including charitable and benevolent bodies, and served on numerous civic boards. He was a public spirited member of the City Council and was president of the Board of Education. His business connections included membership on the board of directors of the First National Bank of Troy. A steadfast Republican in his political views, he was always in the confidence of the party leaders, and frequently served on important committees, and in 1868 he was sent as a delegate to the Republican convention, held at Chicago, Ill., which nominated Ulysses S. Grant and Schuyler S. Colfax for president and vice-president of the United States. For himself he claimed no political office, but he was notably loyal to his friends. He was prominently identified with the Masonic fraternity.

Dr. Coleman was married on November 9, 1847, to Mary L. Aldrich, of New England ancestry, and to this marriage were born seven children, the youngest of whom, Warren Coleman, maintains the professional name and standing of both his father and grandfather. Dr. Warren Coleman is the senior member of the prominent medical firm of Coleman & Shilling, whose offices are located at No. 201 West Water Street, Troy, Ohio.

WILLIAM ELMER SEE, a representative citizen of Elizabeth Township, residing on his well improved farm of 157 acres, which is situated in Section 32, on the Springfield and Troy Turnpike, about four miles southeast of the latter place, was born January 5, 1863, and is a son of Jacob and Ellen (Jackson) See.

Samuel See, the grandfather of William E., came to Ohio from Pennsylvania, and settled at Tippecanoe City. He was a brickmason by trade and was always identified with the brick business. In his youth he had the reputation of being able to lay more brick in a given time than any other workman in the county. He had four children—Jacob, Sarah, Katherine, and Henry.

Jacob See married Ellen Jackson, who is a daughter of William and Mary Jackson, and they had two children—William E. and Amanda. The latter is the wife of Charles Martin, of Elizabeth Township. For many years Jacob See was a respected citizen and representative farmer of Elizabeth Township, where he died June 7, 1906. His widow now resides in Troy and enjoys good health and has a wide acquaintance.

William E. See obtained his education in the Kyle school, near his home, and at Walnut Grove, afterward taking up farm duties with his father. He continued to reside at home both before and following his marriage, and when his father died he inherited the farm. He has it all under cultivation with the exception of sixteen acres still in timber, and through his excellent methods makes every acre yield to its utmost. His buildings are of a substantial character and he assisted to construct them all.

Mr. See was married January 10, 1888, to Miss Clara Hoover, who is a daughter of Shannon and Margaret Hoover, of Staunton Township. They have two children: Verna, who is a High School student at Troy; and Lauren, who goes to school in Elizabeth Township. Mr. See is affording his children all the advantages in his power, being a great friend to the public schools and believing in popular education. For some six years he has been a member of the School Board of Elizabeth Township. The mother of Mr. See has witnessed many changes since she came first to Elizabeth Township. The little settlement around Grayson Station is on a part of the old homestead farm, the land having been bought by the Big Four Railroad.

JAMES T. BARTMESS, deceased, formerly county auditor of Miami County, Ohio, was a man whose death, on account of his superior qualities of mind and character, brought a distinct loss to the community in which his useful life had been passed. He was born at Covington, Ohio, October 8, 1845, and was a son of Hamilton and Jane (Barbour) Bartmess.

James T. Bartmess was taught the saddler's trade by his practical father, but neither necessity nor inclination led to his following it. His education was secured in the Covington schools, at Waynesburg College, at Waynesburg, Pa., and the Cumberland University, at Lebanon, Tennessee, and he was graduated from that institution in June, 1874. After he came home he became a teacher in the Covington schools. In 1875 he became superintendent of the schools of Tippecanoe City and filled that position for twenty-one years, only giving up his educational work in order to assume the duties of county auditor, to which he was first elected in November, 1895. He served through two terms, a period of six years, and then retired to private life, having no political ambitions. For fifteen years he was a member of the Miami County Board of School Examiners, and all that time was clerk of this body. Mr. Bartmess then became cashier of the Citizens National Bank of Covington, a position he continued to fill until his death, May 2, 1905.

In his political views he was a Republican. From boyhood he had entertained a patriotic love of country and when Civil War was first declared, he endeavored to overcome opposition and become a soldier, but he was not accepted until 1862, and then only in the capacity of drummer boy. He continued until the close of the war a member of Company G, 110th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and twice suffered imprisonment, once at Libby Prison and second at Andersonville. For a number of years he was active in the Grand Army of the Republic Post, first at Tippecanoe City, later at Troy, which he served as commander and in other offices.

On December 23, 1875, Mr. Bartmess was married to Miss Mary Belle Routson, a daughter of A. Routson, of Covington, and they had three children: Blanche; Ruth, who died when aged five years; and James William. Mr. Bartmess was a consistent member of the Presbyterian church. He was a Knights Templar Mason and an Odd Fellow and belonged to the Royal Arcanum. In private life he was a man of genial disposition, kindly and companionable.

M. K. BROWN, who resides at No. 607 West High Street, is a well known citizen of Piqua and is now retired from business activity. He was born in that city in November, 1846, and is a son of John and Mary (Knox) Brown, his father being one of the pioneer manufacturers of Piqua.

John Brown was born in Cynthiana, Kentucky, and was among the early settlers of Miami County, coming as early as 1805. He was a hatter by trade and engaged in the manufacture of hats in Piqua for many years. He took an active part in the affairs of that period and for years served on the school board. His death occurred September 15, 1846. He married Mary Knox, who was born in Lebanon, Tennessee, and they reared a family of four children: James Harvey Brown, who is deceased; Mary T. Brown; Henry C. Brown; and M. K. Brown. Mary (Knox) Brown, the mother of this family, first came to Miami County, Ohio, in 1816, from Tennessee, where she was born. Mrs. Brown died July 14, 1888.

M. K. Brown received a good public school training, and then turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. He farmed in Washington Township for a period of thirty-five years, then retired to Piqua to enjoy the fruits of his early toil. He and his brother, Henry C., own a valuable farm of 260 acres in that township, which they now rent out. Henry C. Brown is a prominent Mason, belonging to both Blue Lodge and Chapter. Miss Mary T. Brown is a member of the Baptist Church of Piqua.

HON. ROBERT N. EYLER, mayor of Tippecanoe City, elected on the Citizens' ticket, has filled this important office since January 1, 1908, and has given the city a vigorous but clean economical administration. Mayor Eyler was born April 4, 1870, in Frederick County, Maryland, and is a son of Benjamin and Martha Eyler, both members of old Maryland families. The grandfathers on both sides were farmers and Mr. Eyler's father combined farming and work as a carpenter. He died in 1886, when aged sixty-six years and was survived by his widow until January 10, 1900, she dying aged seventy-three years.

Robert N. Eyler attended the public schools in his native State and worked on the home farm and after coming to Miami County worked two years longer at farming. In March, 1899, he came to Tippecanoe City, where for one year he was engaged in the cigar business, and for three and one-half years afterward he was shipping clerk for the Davis Whip Company, and for two and one-half years was ticket agent for the D. & T. Electric Railway. He returned to the Whip Company for one more year and in the spring of 1900 was elected township assessor. He served two years in that office, being very active in politics in the meanwhile and serving for six years as a member of the Republican County Central Committee. In 1907 he was nominated for mayor and was elected on the Citizens' ticket.

In 1900 Mayor Eyler was married to Mrs. Anna B. Clark, a daughter of George Wyant, of Bowerston, Harrison County, Ohio, and they have one son, Alva G. Mayor Eyler is a member of Lodge No. 174, F. & A. M., Tippecanoe City, of which he was worshipful master for two years and also was both junior and senior warden, and is also a member of Troy Chapter, Royal Arch Masons. He belongs also to the Modern Woodmen of America of Tippecanoe City and for eight years was clerk of Camp No. 6713, and from March 1, 1907 to March 1, 1908, he was district deputy, having eight counties under his supervision. He was reared in the United Brethren Church but now holds membership in the English Lutheran.

G. W. LORIMER, president and general manager of The Auto Sand Mixer Company, and secretary and treasurer of The American Machine Telephone Company, Limited, is one of Piqua's representative men. He was born in County Brant, Ontario, Dominion of Canada, in 1874, and there was educated and later learned telegraphing, which he followed until 1892.

About that year Mr. Lorimer became interested in the automatic telephone exchanges and accepted the position of secretary treasurer of The American Machine Telephone Company, Limited, for the manufacture of machine telephone exchanges, which is known as the Lorimer system, he and his brother being the patentees. They have these exchanges established in Canada, France and Italy and in the interests of his business he has visited those countries. The Auto Sand Mixer Company, of Piqua, manufacturing, was organized and incorporated in 1906, with a capital stock of $40,000, with G. W. Lorimer as president and general manager; V. E. Minnich, vice-president; G. A. Vaugier, treasurer; and Dr. P. L. Snorf, secretary, for the manufacturing of sand mixing machinery for foundry use. Mr. Lorimer is the patentee of this invention. In addition to the patents he has already secured on his two notable inventions, he has fourteen more pending relative to the same.

In 1897 Mr. Lorimer was married to Miss Jennie Hunter, of Ontario, Canada, and they have three children: A. Hoyt,

W. F. MILLER

Genevieve and Harry Townsend. Mr. and Mrs. Lorimer are members of the Presbyterian Church. He is a thirty-second degree Mason, is past master of Warren Lodge, of Piqua; belongs to the Blue Lodge and Chapter at Piqua; the Council and commandery at Troy; and the Consistory at Dayton. Mr. Lorimer has many beautiful souvenirs of travel in his handsome home and he has also perhaps the finest collection of archeological specimens and old firearms belonging to any private person in the State of Ohio. He has been interested in making this collection for many years, having at present 200 of these antique firearms. The collection would adorn any museum.

ELVA A. JACKSON, postmaster of Troy, Ohio, is one of a family of two children born to Dennison H. and Phoebe (Parker) Jackson. His father, who was a railroad man, died in 1863. The subject of this sketch was born in Dayton, Ohio, February 1, 1850, and was educated in the common schools. In 1871 he located in Tippecanoe, Ohio, and was in the employ of Ford & Co. as assistant engineer and superintendent until July 11, 1898. He was then elected to the office of county clerk of Miami County, in which he served two terms. Afterwards he was engaged in business in Troy until February 10, 1908, when, having been appointed postmaster, he assumed the duties of that office, which he has since held.

Mr. Jackson married Miss Anna M. Wynonhagen, who was a daughter of David Wynonhagen. He and his wife are members of the Baptist church. In politics Mr. Jackson is a Republican. He is well advanced in Free Masonry, belonging to all the divisions of the Order. He has a pleasant residence at the corner of Simpson and Cherry Streets.

W. F. MILLER, proprietor of the leading livery, feed and sales stables at Troy, Ohio, has been identified with the interests of this city for the past seventeen years and has investments in different concerns. He was born at West Milton, Miami County, Ohio, in 1856, and is a son of George W. Miller, a native of Pennsylvania, who died in 1907. The latter was brought to Ohio in childhood, spent many years as a teacher and farmer in Miami County, and lived retired for some fifteen years or more previous to his death.

After completing his public school course Mr. Miller left the farm and operated a flour and feed store, to which he later added a grocery and bakery. He then visited in California for two years, and when he came back to Ohio he engaged in clerking in Miami County for D. W. McCullough & Co. for five years, later was in a retail coal business, and then entered the employ of the Troy Bending Works. Still later he became an employee of the Pioneer Pole and Shaft Company, for which concern he worked for six years, spending a part of the time buying and manufacturing lumber in the South for their use. He then purchased his present business, which he has established on North Cherry Street. He has the largest and best equipment in Troy and handles a large amount of trade. He keeps on an average thirty-five head of horses and has all kinds of conveyances for hire. He owns lumber tracts in the South and is also interested in the firm of Miller & Flowers, gents' furnishers, at

Piqua. His business standing is high and his worthy citizenship is unquestioned.

Mr. Miller was married (first) in 1881, to Miss Lilly B. Tucker, who died in 1892, leaving two children—C. E., who is his father's bookkeeper and for five years was a traveling salesman through the South; and Essie, who is the wife of F. O. Flowers, a leading business man of Piqua. Mr. Miller was married (second) to Miss Frances Dollinger, who was born and reared in Newberry Township, Miami County. They are members of the First Presbyterian Church.

JAMES W. BRANDON, who is employed in the railroad postal service, has been a resident of Piqua for twelve years and here are centered his main interests. He was born March 2, 1871, at Covington, Ohio, and is a son of Thomas Brandon.

Thomas Brandon was born in 1844, in Darke County, Ohio, and has been engaged in agricultural pursuits through a long life. He now lives retired at Covington. During the Civil War he served for 100 days as a member of the 147th Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

James W. Brandon was reared and educated at Covington and after graduating from the High School, engaged in teaching for about six years. He then entered into the railway mail service and for the past thirteen years has been connected with the C. H. & D. Railroad, between Detroit and Cincinnati. On September 29, 1897, Mr. Brandon was married to Miss Grace Purdy, of Covington, Ohio. They are members of the First Presbyterian Church at Piqua. He is identified with the Masons and the Knights of Pythias.

LE ROY HAGER, a prominent business citizen of Piqua, Ohio, has been identified with the Piqua Ice Company during the most of his business career. He was born on North Main Street, in Piqua, July 23, 1879, and is a son of George and Dora (Roeser) Hager.

George Hager was born in Germany and in the early fifties took up his residence in Piqua, Ohio. During the Civil War he ran a boat on the Canal, but during the last twenty-five years of his life was engaged in the ice business. He died in July, 1908, after a long and useful life. He was married to Dora Roeser, who also was born in Germany and is still living at the old home on North Main Street.

Le Roy Hager was the only child born to his parents and was reared in Piqua. After graduating from Piqua High School he pursued a four years' course in civil engineering in Ohio State University. He engaged in professional work in the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company for one and a half years, at the end of which time he began his connection with the Piqua Ice Company. He has been with that concern continuously since and enjoys high standing among the business men of the city. Mr. Hager was married April 29, 1903, to Miss Sally Ingham, of Columbus, Ohio, and they have one son, Robert Ingham Hager. Religiously, they are members of the Presbyterian Church. Fraternally, Mr. Hager is affiliated with Greek letter societies at Ohio State University.

JOHN M. BASHORE, who is serving his twelfth year as a member of the Miami County Fair Board, is a substantial citizen of Covington and is the owner of a farm of 118 acres in Newton Township, which he has farmed since early manhood. He was born on a farm in Newton Township, September 17, 1849, and is a son of Benjamin S. Susanna (Martin) Bashore, who were early residents of the county.

The subject of this record was reared on his father's farm two miles south of Greenville Falls, in Newton Township, and received his schooling in the district schools. After marriage he and his wife set up housekeeping on the farm he now owns, living there from November, 1871, until February, 1903, when he moved to Covington. There he purchased of his sister the fine frame house now occupied by them. He made most of the improvements on the farm and always engaged in general farming, following modern and approved methods in his work. He always has taken an interest in the affairs of the community in which he has lived, and is progressive and enterprising. He served twelve or fourteen years as pike superintendent of Newton Township, and was also first elected to the fair board from that township.

May 18, 1871, Mr. Bashore was married to Miss Sarah Jane Moist, who was born near Dayton, in Montgomery County, Ohio, and is a daughter of Henry Moist. Her mother died at her birth and she was reared in the family of an uncle, Abraham Moist, who lived southwest of Covington. To them was born four children—Charles, Susanna, Frederick, and one that died at birth. Susanna is the only one living. She first married, James Shoe, and their daughter, Martha Shoe, makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Bashore. Susanna formed a second union with Michael Bashore and they live in Missoula, Montana. Politically, the subject of this record is a Republican. In fraternal affiliation he is a member of the Improved Order of Red Men.

WILLIAM HARRY GILBERT, Troy, Ohio, is one of Miami County's most prominent and successful lawyers, occupying an enviable position at the bar of the county. He was born on a farm near Gettysburg, in Darke County, Ohio, December 28, 1863, and is a son of Henry and Mary E. (Harry) Gilbert.

Henry Gilbert was born on a farm in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and accompanied his parents in 1837 on their removal to Miami County, locating on a farm near Croft's mill, two miles west of Covington. He was joined in marriage January 4, 1863, with Miss Mary E. Harry, who located in Miami County with her parents when she was a young girl. They set up housekeeping near Gettysburg, in Darke County, and now reside in retirement at Pleasant Hill, Miami County.

William H. Gilbert is the eldest of seven children born to his parents, of whom all but the youngest grew to maturity and are still living. He was reared on the home farm and received a preliminary education in the district schools, supplemented by a short course in the normal school at Portland, Indiana, in 1884, and in the Normal School at Ada, Ohio, in 1885. After leaving school he continued a systematic course of study in literature, history and the sciences, and is a man of intellectual attainments. He began teaching school at seventeen years of age, and taught four winter terms in district schools of Darke County.

In the spring of 1886 he began preparations for the profession of law in the offices and under the direction of Meeker, Bowman, in Greenville. In November of that year he left the office of that firm but continued study under the preceptorship of its members until October 4, 1888, when he was admitted to the bar by the Supreme Court of Ohio. In the meanwhile he was appointed librarian of the Greenville Law Library and special court bailiff and served as such while reading law until he opened an office for practice. He continued at Greenville until October, 1892, when he removed to Troy and embarked in practice. In April, 1899, he formed a partnership with Mr. L. H. Shipman, who had been a student in his office, and the firm of Gilbert & Shipman continued for ten years, enjoying throughout this section of the State a large and successful practice. This firm was dissolved by mutual consent.

Mr. Gilbert is now engaged in the practice alone. His offices are located in the new Masonic Temple in Troy, where he occupies two suites of offices, consisting of five well appointed rooms. His office is modern in every respect, and is equipped with a large and practicable working library. Mr. Gilbert employs all the help necessary to enable him to dispose of a large practice with facility and dispatch. He has had a large and lucrative practice from the time he opened an office in Troy. During the seventeen years of his practice here, he has tried more cases than any other lawyer at the bar. He has been employed on one side of practically every important civil case tried in the Courts of Miami County during that period. He has been also employed in the more important criminal cases. He does not accept employment in minor criminal cases. He has been employed in all first degree murder cases in both Miami and Darke counties, since his admission, except one. He has always appeared for the defense in the homicide cases, except in the recent case in Miami Common Pleas Court, of Forde White, charged with the murder of his father. In this case, the court appointed Mr. Gilbert to assist in the prosecution. His efforts were successful and White was convicted of murder in first degree. His services in this case were highly satisfactory to the public and to the court. The case rested entirely on circumstantial evidence, and the public generally believed White's conviction was due to Mr. Gilbert's closing argument in the case.

Mr. Gilbert has devoted himself exclusively to the practice of the law. He allows nothing to divert his attention from the practice. He has been well rewarded for his services, and has accumulated a comfortable fortune from the practice alone.

Mr. Gilbert is a careful, capable and conscientious lawyer, with a profound knowledge of the law and the ability to present his case to court or jury in a clear, concise, and convincing manner. He has met with more than ordinary success and enjoys the confidence and good will of the people.

November 19, 1890, William H. Gilbert was joined in marriage with Miss Virginia G. Meeker, a lady of refinement and many accomplishments. She is a daughter of Hon. D. L. Meeker, of Greenville. One child, Virginia Gilbert, was born to this union on July 16, 1907. He owns and lives in one of the most substantial homes in Troy.

Mr. Gilbert is domestic in taste and devoted to his family. His time, outside of business hours, is spent in his own home, in the companionship of his family.

Mr. Gilbert has never sought political preferment. He declined a nomination for Congress when twenty-eight years of age. He also declined numerous offers of political advancement since. He believes a lawyer who wishes to succeed in the practice should not permit politics to break in on his time. He believes his clients are entitled to his time and services.

Mr. Gilbert is now in middle life, and in good health. The best years of his professional life still lie before him.

REV. WILLIAM H. ALLISON, rector of St. James Episcopal Church at Piqua, is one of the most earnest and scholarly clergymen of the diocese to which he belongs. He was born in July, 1873, in the city of New York, and was reared there and at Yonkers, New York.

After graduating with honors from Columbia University, in the class of 1897, Dr. Allison entered the Berkley Divinity School at Middletown, Connecticut, where he was graduated in 1900. Following this he was ordained and for one year served as assistant rector of St. Andrew's Church at Ann Arbor, Michigan, when he became pastor of St. Mary's Church, at Detroit. where he remained for five years. He then served St. John's Church of Covington, Kentucky, for one year, when he accepted the call to St. James' Church at Piqua, where he has a congregation of 250 communicants. His work is appreciated and the closest ties bind him and his people.

In 1901 Rev. Allison was married to Miss Ethel L. Tillotson, of New Haven, Connecticut. He is very prominent in Masonry, being a member of Blue Lodge No. 91, F. & A. M., of Detroit; Peninsula Chapter, of Detroit; Detroit Commandery No. 1, of Detroit; and the Mystic Shrine, of the same city. He also retains membership in the Sigma Alpha Epsilon, of college days, and he belongs to the Piqua Club.

WARREN HARTLE, who has been in the railway mail service for about three years, is a well known resident of Covington, Miami County, Ohio, and is the owner of 110 acres of valuable land in Newberry Township, seventy acres of which is located in Section 13, and forty acres in Section 14. He was born on this farm January 17, 1873, and is a son of Peter and Mary (Gilbert) Hartle, a grandson of Frederick Hartle, and great-grandson of John Johannes Hartle.

John Hartle, the great-grandfather, was a native of Zweibrücken, Pfaltz, Germany, and was a soldier of the Revolutionary War. He lived at Albany, New York, at the time of the war but afterward went to Hagerstown, Maryland, where he married. He later moved to Blair County, Pennsylvania, when an old man and there passed away.

Frederick Hartle, grandfather of Warren, moved from Blair County, Pennsylvania, some time after his marriage, to Miami County, Ohio, where he entered 160 acres of land, of which the forty-acre tract in Section 14, owned by our subject, formed a part. All of this quarter section continues in the family name. Frederick bought additional land and became a large landowner. He died and was buried on the old farm in Newberry Township.

Peter Hartle was born in Blair County, Pennsylvania, and was but a small boy when his parents moved to Miami County, Ohio. Here he grew to maturity and learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed many years. He enjoyed a wide reputation as a carpenter, being unexcelled as a workman, and he erected many buildings, among them being the old county house and barn at Troy. He later took up farming in Newberry Township, putting up all the buildings on the farm, even to making of the doors and sashes. He died there in 1902, at the age of seventy-eight years, after a long and useful life. His wife survived him some two years. She was in maiden life Mary Gilbert, and was born and raised in Newberry Township, a part of Covington being situated on what was the old Gilbert homestead. Her father, Thomas Gilbert, was a native of South Carolina, and from there enlisted for service in the War of 1812. He came north with his regiment and was finally discharged at Greeneville, Ohio. Being a poor boy, he decided to remain in the north and invest the pay he received for military service, in land; time proved the wisdom of his investments and he died leaving an estate estimated at $80,000. He was a very public-spirited man and was the founder of the Greenville Creek Christian Church, and always liberal in its support.

Warren Hartle was reared on the home farm and continued to live there some ten years after his marriage. In 1906 they moved to Covington, renting his farm property, and they have a fine home on Wall Street. Among his cherished possession is a thirty-five dollar note issued by the Continental Congress to his grandfather, John Hartle, in payment for military service during the Revolution. In 1896 Mr. Hartle was married to Miss Margaret Young, a daughter of S. F. Young, of Darke County, Ohio, and they have two children—Grace W. and Guy D. Religiously, they are members of the Christian Church.

I. B. PATTERSON, who lives retired from active business life, occupying his pleasant and comfortable home at No. 607 West Ash Street, Piqua, is a native of Miami County, Ohio, and was born in Spring Creek Township in 1846.

William Patterson, father of I. B., was a pioneer in Spring Creek Township, settling about 1820 in the woods and subsequently clearing up a farm on which he lived until 1864. He then moved into Shelby County and died there in 1869.

I. B. Patterson was reared on his father's farm and attended the district schools through boyhood. He continued to follow agricultural pursuits until he was about forty-five years of age. He then went into the coal business, which he carried on for a few years, after which he became interested in the manufacturing of staves and hoops, which he carried on for ten years, in Indiana, Michigan and Ohio. He then returned to Piqua and here has found congenial friends and surroundings and has made it his permanent home. He is financially interested in the Fairbanks Steam Shovel Company, of Marion, Ohio.

In 1875 Mr. Patterson was married (first) to Miss Anna Meeker, who died in 1890, leaving one son, Carl, who is a resident of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. In 1893 Mr. Patterson was married (second) to Miss Nancy Pruden, and they have three children—Arthur, Helen, and Ruth. Mr. Patterson and wife are members of the First Presbyterian Church. He is identified with the Masons, belonging to the organization at La Rue, Ohio. As a good citizen he has made his presence felt at Piqua, giving encouragment to the movements for bettering conditions of all kinds and contributing to charities and benevolent objects.

GIDEON G. UPDIKE, located on a well improved farm of forty acres in Section 34, Elizabeth Township, Miami County, Ohio, is engaged in general farming and tobacco raising. He is a native of New Jersey, having been born near the city of Princeton, December 25, 1847, and is a son of Jacob and Johanna (Mount) Updike.

John Updike, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born in 1790, and was married to Mary Updike, who was born in 1786, and, although bearing the same name, was of no blood relationship. They were parents of the following children: Eliza, born in 1810; Johnston, born in 1811; Jacob, born in 1813; Sarah, born in 1816; Lydia, born in 1818; Priscilla, born in 1821; Theodore L., born in 1823; John S., born in 1825; Gideon, born in 1828; Philomen, born in 1830; and one who died in infancy.

Jacob Updike was joined in marriage with Johannah Mount, a daughter of Hezekiah Mount, and their children were: Gideon G., whose name heads this sketch; Matthew G., deceased; and Adeline, wife of Frank Vandeveer of Warren County, Ohio.

Gideon G. Updike first attended school at Cedar Grove, New Jersey, the school building being a small structure, eight-cornered and built of niggerhead stone. Upon leaving school he worked on the home farm until he was twenty-one years old, and then came west to Carlisle, Warren County, Ohio, where he followed carpentering several years, working in the construction of many houses and barns in that vicinity. In 1870 he returned east and was married, but again took his trade and residence at Carlisle, Ohio. He afterward rented a farm in that vicinity, but after some six years moved to Miami County. He farmed near Troy for six years, then rented the Kline farm near Casstown, from which he moved to the vicinity of Raper Church, where he farmed for ten years. At the end of that time he moved to the Husler farm near Troy, on which he was located nine years, and from there moved to what was known as the A. P. Barnes farm of forty acres, which he purchased of George Ralston. It is located on the Casstown Pike, three and a half miles east of Troy, in Section 34, Elizabeth Township. He follows general farming and tobacco growing, having about five acres planted to that commodity. He is a Republican in politics, and has always taken a progressive interest in the affairs of the community in which he has resided. He was on the school board of Staunton Township ten years, and is at the present time serving as pike supervisor.

February 16, 1870, Mr. Updike was united in marriage with Louisa Carson, a daughter of Isaac H. and Lydia Ann Carson, and they became parents of three children, as follows: Walter G., who died in infancy; Wilber D., who married Ora DeWeese, daughter of Alexander and Esterline DeWeese, and has a son, Robert F.; and Ada C., deceased wife of Larkin Hole of Piqua, by whom she had a son, Harry. Fraternally, our subject is a member of Franklin City Lodge, K. P., in Warren County. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Raper Chapel, and is a director of the cemetery.

CHARLES E. MARTIN, one of Piqua's representative and reliable business men, who is engaged at Piqua as a general cement contractor, was born June 19, 1852, at Piqua, Ohio, and is a son of Frederick and Louisa (Roempler) Martin.

Both parents of Mr. Martin were born in Germany, October 10, 1821, and April 10, 1822, respectively. In 1835 Frederick Martin came to Piqua, where he learned the carpenter's trade and later entered into general contracting. He married Miss Roempler, who came to America at the age of thirteen years, and they had four children, the three survivors being: George F., who resides at Peoria, Illinois; Henrietta, who is the wife of J. M. Hibben, who is the oldest merchant at Hillsboro, Highland County, Ohio; and Charles E.

Charles E. Martin was reared and educated at Piqua, working in early manhood with his father, later engaging in general contracting and since 1884 has been confining himself to cement contracting, being the pioneer in the cement business in this section. He put up his own fine residence at No. 629 West Ash Street. Mr. Martin built the first concrete bridge ever erected in Miami County, the first structure of the kind he had ever built. The bridge stands across the Washington Pike about two miles south of Piqua.

July 25, 1901, Mr. Martin was married to Miss Marietta Knight, who was born near Casstown, Ohio, a daughter of Stephen and Delilah Knight, her father being a member of a pioneer family. They have one son, Frederick. Mr. Martin and family are identified with the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and attends the lodge at Troy.

ISRAEL H. ROSENBERGER, a highly respected citizen and substantial retired farmer residing at Covington, has a large enterprise in hand in the colonization of the farmers of the Miami Valley in Colfax, New Mexico. Mr. Rosenberger was born on a farm near Tiffin, Seneca County, Ohio, on what was then known as the David Troxell farm, April 8, 1844, and is a son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Hartsough) Rosenberger, a family of considerable prominence.

Mr. Rosenberger grew to manhood on the home farm, attending the country schools at first and later the High School at Findlay, after which he taught school, teaching four terms before he was married and two terms afterward. He had accompanied his parents when they moved from Seneca to Hancock County, establishing the home in Washington Township, seven miles southwest of Fostoria, and was living there when he entered the army during the Civil War. He enlisted at Toledo, however, from Sandusky County, in the spring of 1864, in Company G, Eighty-ninth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in which he served until the close of the war. His regiment was visited with a scourge of measles and fourteen members died of the disease, while Mr. Rosenberger was confined to a hospital, at Huntsville, Alabama, for two and one-half months, suffering from the epidemic, and barely escaping with his life.

Mr. Rosenberger was married in October, 1867, to Miss Margaret Ebersole, a daughter of Abraham Ebersole, a farmer of Hancock County, Ohio, and they have three children—Frank, Elizabeth and Ella. Frank is cashier of the Leipsic, Ohio, bank. Elizabeth married Morris M. Mikesell, who is vice-president and general manager of the Farmers' Development Company, of New Mexico, where they reside. They have two children, Margaret and Frank. Ella is a teacher of Domestic Science, at the W. C. A. Home at Dayton, Ohio.

Mr. Rosenberger resided on his farm in Hancock County until 1906, when he sold out and moved to Covington, where he has erected a handsome brick residence of modern construction which is equipped with furnace heat, baths and electric light. He is one of the Board of Directors of the Farmers' Development Company, owns valuable town property at Los Angeles, California, where he and wife spent two winters. He also owns one-third section near Medicine Hat, Canada. He is a member of the Brethren Church and is treasurer of the local body.

THE MAGEE BROS. COMPANY, printers, binders and engravers, at Piqua, is one of the representative business enterprises of this city and was established in 1896 by Charles W. and Edwin R. Magee, under the style of Magee Bros., and was incorporated April 1, 1909, under the present style, with a capital stock of $50,000.

Like many other of the successful concerns at Piqua, this business was started in a small way, the equipment consisting of one job press operated in one room of 12 by 14 feet in dimensions. The contrast is afforded by the building now utilized, with dimensions of 110 by 64 feet, which was built especially for them as the partners struggled to keep abreast of their increasing trade. This building has been thoroughly equipped with all the modern machines and devices that now must be included in a thoroughly up-to-date printing plant, nine presses being kept constantly at work. Among the improved machinery may be noticed the type-setting and casting machines, which appear almost human in the mechanical work they perform.

Charles W. Magee was born in Trumbull County, Ohio, and was educated in Piqua. His life work has been the founding and developing of the business of which he now is president. He married Miss Edith Simon, of Piqua, and they have one son, Charles Edwin. Mr. Magee is a member of the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church. He has been interested in all that pertains to public matters at Piqua and served four years as a member of the City Council. Fraternally he is identified with the Elks and Knights of Pythias, and belongs to the Elks Club, and the Piqua Club.

Edwin R. Magee, vice-president and secretary of the Magee Bros. Company, was, like his brother, born in Trumbull County and educated in Piqua, supplementing the public school course by one in a business college. He married Miss Hattie L. Tyson, of Fletcher, and they have two children, Vesta Verne and Walter Hart. Mr. Magee is a member of the Elks, the Red Men, the Maccabees and the Elks Club. He belongs to the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church.

Otto Simon, treasurer of the Magee Bros. Company, is a native of Piqua, where he was reared and educated. Prior to entering into his present business connection, he was in the transfer business in this city. He married Miss Sena Phillips, also a native of Piqua, and they have one daughter, Helen. He is a member of the German Lutheran Church. Fraternally he is a thirty-second degree Mason. He has been a very active and public-spirited citizen. His public services include membership in the board of review of the city of Piqua and valuable service in the city council.

JOSEPH WARREN BOWMAN, who has long been classed among the foremost citizens and business men of Tippecanoe City, is secretary, treasurer and general manager of the Dye Fruit Company, a thriving and successful concern which operates on an extensive scale. He has been a promoter of and closely identified with many interests which have had an important bearing on the material welfare and advancement of the community. Mr. Bowman was born in Fredericktown, Miami County, Ohio, March 6, 1845, and comes of one of the pioneer families of the county.

Joseph Bowman, father of the subject of this sketch, was born near Knoxville, Tennessee, in 1801, and was about nine years of age, when, in 1810, his father, Jacob Bowman, moved with his family to near Springfield, Ohio. Jacob died soon after his removal to Ohio, and Joseph went to live with an uncle, Thomas Newman, in Montgomery County, Ohio. At the age of sixteen years he borrowed $2.50, with which he purchased a basket and a small stock of goods, and by peddling through the country was able to make and accumulate a little money. Then for several years he engaged in the Indian trade. It was his custom to purchase goods in Cincinnati and have them hauled to the headwaters of the Mississinewa River; there he would unload on the bank of the river, cut down a tree and dig out a canoe, into which he placed his goods. He floated down that stream to the Wabash, thence to the Ohio River, there being many Indian villages and but one white man along his route. He traded with the Indians for furs and arriving at the Ohio River, made his way up that stream to Cincinnati. There disposed of his furs and laid in a stock of goods for another trip. Thus he traded with the Miami and Pottawatomie tribes for four or five years, and some time between 1820 and 1822 he started a small store in Fredericktown, Miami County. He was in business there continuously for nearly half a century and became a man of prominence and affluence, owning at one time seven or eight farms besides having varied business interests. He was possessed of a pleasing personality and was immensely popular with his many acquaintances throughout the county. His death occurred in 1871, at the age of seventy years. He was united in marriage with Mary Sheets, who was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, in 1808, and died in Fredericktown at the age of seventy-six years. The following children were born to them: Caroline, who was the wife of Aaron Furnace, and died in Monroe Township, Miami County, at the age of forty years; Ann, who was the wife of Robert Furnace and also died in Monroe Township, at the age of forty years; Eliza Jane, who was the wife of Henry Neal and died in Monroe Township, aged sixty-nine years; Oliver Perry, who died in Toledo, Ohio, at the age of sixty-five years; Mary Ellen, widow of A. B. Carey of Lebanon, Warren County, Ohio; Joseph Warren, subject of this sketch; Daniel Webster, who died in Toledo, Ohio, at the age of fifty-nine years; Ellwood, who died at three years; and Reed, who was seven years old at the time of his death. Oliver Perry Bowman, who for more than twenty years was engaged in the real estate business at Toledo, was married to Martha Jane Gray of Warren County, Ohio. Daniel Webster Bowman was for many years in partnership with his father at Fredericktown, but later was a manufacturer in the city of Toledo. He was married to Miss Isabella Turner.

Joseph Warren Bowman attended the public schools of Fredericktown, and later commercial school at Toledo. He then sold hardware for his father and brother until 1866 when he became a member of the firm of Bowman, Wells and Company at Tippecanoe City, dealing in dry goods and boots and shoes. At the end of a year he purchased the interest of Mr. Wells and the firm became J. W. & O. P. Bowman, continuing as such for two years, when J. W. Bowman purchased his brother's interest. It was then conducted under the name of J. W. Bowman, and later, for three years under the name of Bowman and Lindley. Mr. Bowman purchased the interest of his partner and it was successively operated under the name of J. W. Bowman and Bowman & Davis until 1898, when the subject of this record sold out to Samuel Smith. He has since that time been identified with the Dye Fruit Company, of which he is now secretary, treasurer and general manager. They have 160 acres devoted to the growing of fruits, having about 28,000 trees, principally cherries, peaches and plums. Mr. Bowman also owns, individually, a farm of 130 acres in Monroe Township. He is president and stockholder of the Tipp Whip Company; was formerly interested in the glucose plant and was one of the organizers of the Strawboard Works. He also was one of the organizers of the Tippecanoe City National Bank, of which he has been a director since its inception. He has a fine home which he built in Tippecanoe City, located on West Main Street.

In 1866 Mr. Bowman was united in marriage with Miss Maggie M. Perry, a daughter of Nathan and Isabella Perry of Darke County, Ohio, and the following were the issue of their union: Frank Perry, who died at the age of fourteen years; Howard E., an insurance man, who died in March, 1907, at the age of thirty-four years; Stella W., wife of E. L. Crane, who is vice-president and assistant cashier of the Tippecanoe City National Bank; and Bessie M., who is living at home. Howard E. Bowman was married to Miss Eva Munger of Piqua, and is survived by his wife and one child, Enona Gene, the latter being four years old.

Joseph W. Bowman is an enthusiastic Republican, and has always been active in the support of the principles of that party. Fraternally, he is a member of Blue Lodge No. 74, F. & A. M., at Tippecanoe City.

A. MORRISON ORR, vice-president of the Orr Felt and Blanket Company, one of Piqua's successful business enterprises and one of Miami County's largest manufacturing plants, was born September 7, 1856, in Darke County, Ohio, and is a son of Gen. W. P. Orr.

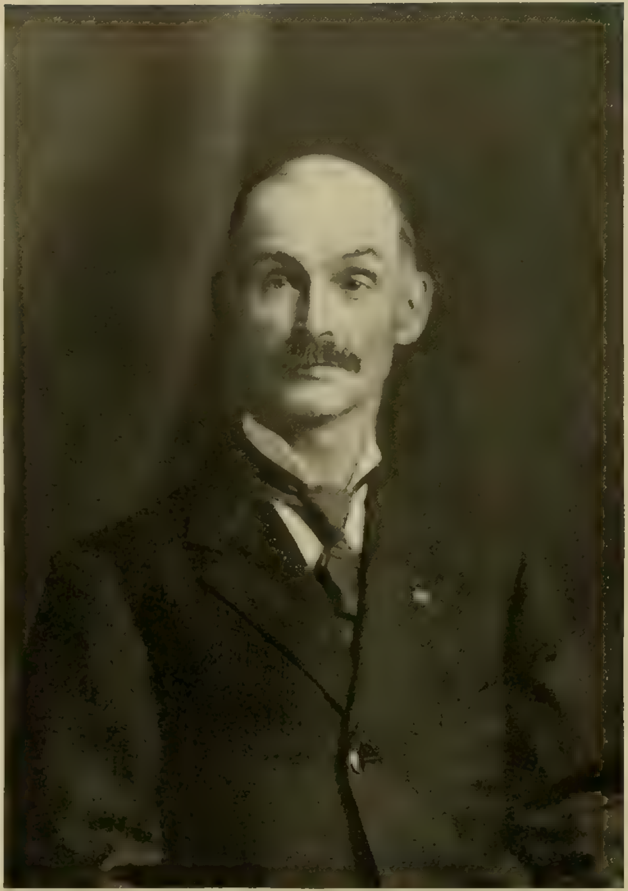
Mr. Orr was reared in Darke County and secured his education there and at Piqua, and when he went into business it was as a dealer in grain and linseed oil, with Orr and Leonard, under the style of Orr & Leonard. This name later was changed to the W. P. Orr Linseed Oil Company, which subsequently sold out to the American Linseed Oil Company. When this change came about, Mr. Orr remained with the new company, in charge of the sales department at Cincinnati, until February, 1907, when he severed this connection. In the meanwhile, Mr. Orr had become financially interested in a paper mill and stove works in Miami County and also looked into other investments which resulted, in 1900, in his buying out the F. Gray Felt and Blanket Manufacturing Company, and the establishment of his own large enterprise. Increasing business has shown the absolute necessity of an extension of quarters and facilities and a new plant located on South Main Street is in course of construction, which, when finished will give the plant 190,000 square feet of floor space. The old quarters at No. 129 East Water Street were formerly considered adequate, but the new ones will be vastly superior, being equipped with all modern appliances, a compound condensing engine being used and electricity transmitted to every point. This will be the largest felt and blanket mill in the country. Employment is given to some 400 work people and the pay roll amounts to a very large sum. Mr. Orr is a director in the Citizens National Bank, the Piqua Savings Bank and the Piqua Home Telephone Company.

Mr. Orr was married to Miss Eliza Van Bibber Boal, who was born in Kentucky. He has four children: W. P., Jr., who is engaged in the wool business in Australia; Margaret, who is the wife of R. D. Hopkins, Jr., of Baltimore, Maryland; Martha Louise, and Morrison Boal. Mr. Orr is a member of the Presbyterian Church. He is identified with the Elks and with the Piqua Business Men's Club.

REV. JAMES J. CROWLEY, pastor of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, at Piqua, was born in England but was reared at Bardstown, Kentucky. After completing the long course of ecclesiastical training which is required for the priesthood, Father Crowley was ordained and was stationed in Kentucky, from whence he came to Ohio in 1883.

Father Crowley had charge of St. Mary's Catholic Church at Franklin, Ohio, for nineteen years, going from there to St. Mary's Church at Oxford, Ohio, and fifteen months later, in January, 1904, came to his present pastorate at Piqua.

St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church at Piqua was established in December, 1843, and is the first Catholic Church built in this city. Father James Halloran was the first pastor, and Rev. James P. Cahill succeeded him, and was later followed by Rev. H. Henry. Rev. E. P. Hickey took



JOHN H. BRANSON

MRS. NANCY L. BRANSON

charge in 1887 and remained in charge for fourteen years. The present church edifice and school building were erected during that time. Father Crowley has greatly improved conditions since he took charge, both in a material and spiritual way. The parish now includes 220 families and the pupils in the church school number 230, five rooms being utilized. The prosperous condition of the affairs of the parish reflect credit upon the Christian zeal as well as the executive ability of Rev. Father Crowley.

JOHN H. BRANSON, clerk of the Newberry Township School Board and one of the most progressive citizens of that township, resides on his farm of fifty-nine acres located in Section 6, about three and a half miles north of Covington. He was born on the quarter-section of which this farm was a part, September 18, 1857, and is a son of DeWitt Clinton and Charlotte D. (Suber) Branson, his father being in his day one of the most prominent men of the county.

The first of the Bransons to come to Miami County, Ohio, was Moses Nutt Branson, grandfather of John H. He was born in Burlington (now Ocean) County, New Jersey, December 28, 1801, and as he was very young when his parents died, he was bound out. In 1817, at the age of fifteen and a half years, he came west to Montgomery County, Ohio, where he remained several years after his marriage, and then settled in Lost Creek Township, Miami County, and lived there until his death. He was married July 8, 1821, to Harriet Nutt, a daughter of Levi and Sarah Nutt.

DeWitt Clinton Branson was born in Lost Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, May 1, 1828, and was there reared to manhood. After completing his schooling he began to teach, being eighteen years old at the time, and he continued at that vocation after his marriage and removal to Newberry Township. He served about eighteen years as justice of the peace, and later one term as county commissioner, and was widely known over the county. He owned a farm of 100 acres in Newberry Township, and another of eighty-three acres in Shelby County, Ohio. His death occurred August 24, 1906, and he is survived by his widow. She was in maiden life Charlotte D. Suber, and is a daughter of George Suber. Mr. and Mrs. Branson became parents of the following children: Harriet (Hildebrand); Caroline E. (Johnston); Willis, who is president of the Newberry Township School Board; John H.; Frank; Sarah (Hartzell); Lydia Ann (McMaken); and Angie (Routson).

John H. Branson was reared on his present farm and has always followed farming. He has from an early age taken a deep interest in public affairs, especially those relating to the welfare of his own township. He was elected township trustee and served until his removal to Newton Township disqualified him from filling out his term. He lived in that township for six years and farmed for Colonel Ullery when the latter was serving as county treasurer. During the Spanish-American War Mr. Branson served as corporal in Company A, Third Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was stationed with his regiment, first at Tampa, Florida, then at Fernandina, Florida, then at Huntsville, Alabama. He is a member of the Spanish-American War Veterans. His farm adjoins the old Union Church, which was built in 1852 and is the oldest church building in the township. In 1900 he erected a magnificent brick residence of nine rooms, and the entire farm presents a neat and attractive appearance. He is serving his seventh year as a member of the School Board. Mr. Branson was united in marriage with Miss Nancy Jane Lawrence, who was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, and is a daughter of Joseph and Maria (Shafer) Lawrence. They have had four children: Albert W.; Elmer; Ruth, who died at the age of three years; and Benjamin Arthur.

WESLEY D. WEAVER, of Miami City, Miami County, Ohio, is a retired farmer and respected citizen of that community. He was born on the old home place in Brown Township, Miami County, January 31, 1858, and is a son of John and Libby (Deviney) Weaver.

Peter Weaver, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was married to Winnie Ross, and their offspring were as follows: Peter, Jane, Polly, Nancy, Hannah and John. John Weaver married Libby Deviney and had the following children: Mary Lavina, who is the wife of John Arnold and lives near Fletcher, in Brown Township; Ella, who married John Crawmer; Josie, who married Eli Madaris; Lucy, who is the wife of Edward Crumbaugh; and Wesley D.

Wesley D. Weaver attended school at New Hope, Brown Township, and assisted his father on the home farm until his marriage in 1882. He then rented the farm of his father-in-law for a period of eleven years, afterward returning to the home place to look after the affairs of his father who had become an invalid. Upon the latter's death, Wesley remained for a time on the home place and then went to Champaign County, where he rented and farmed a place. He next purchased a house and three acres of land in Section 10, Elizabeth Township, where he has since lived. He has made many improvements on this place, which is located on the Springfield Pike. He also purchased forty acres in the southeastern corner of Section 9, in Elizabeth Township, two and a half acres of it being timberland. In addition to this land, he owns a lot on Star Avenue in Toledo, and a one-fifth interest in other property in that city.

June 8, 1882, Mr. Weaver was united in marriage with Miss Mary Crawmer, a daughter of Michael Crawmer of Miami County. He is a Democrat in politics, and served one term as road supervisor. Fraternally, he is a member of the Knights of the Golden Eagle, and also belongs to the Temple. In religious attachment, his wife is a consistent member of the Christian Church.

AARON B. COURTER was born in Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio, February 27, 1849, and is a general farmer, owning fifty-one acres in Bethel Township, three miles northwest of New Carlisle. His parents were William and Abigail (Moore) Courter.

William Courter was a native of Ohio, where his life was spent, mainly as a farmer in Bethel Township. He died in 1863 and was interred at New Carlisle. He married Abigail Moore and they had nine children—Nancy Jane, Henry F., John, Sarah M., Aaron B., Elizabeth.

William, Mary and Rachel. The mother of this family died in 1889.

Aaron B. Courter attended school for a short time in his boyhood, at New Carlisle, but as he was the fifth in an increasing family and his father had little means, he had, while still young, to provide more or less for his own support. He engaged in farm work and about 1868 entered the employ of a Mr. Bare, with whom he remained for twenty-six years. Mr. Bare came to Bethel Township from Cumberland County, Penna., and settled on the present farm, where he died. Having no children, the farm came to Mr. Courter who had so faithfully remained with him for so many years. After Mr. Courter took charge he repaired the buildings and did a large amount of improving. He raises excellent crops and is numbered with the successful farmers of the township.

On December 28, 1893, Mr. Courter was married to Miss Harriet Hale, a daughter of John and Mary Ann Hale, and they have two children—Mabel May and William Lawrence, both of whom are attentive pupils of Fairview School, District No. 3, Bethel Township. In his political views, Mr. Courter is a Republican.

GEORGE S. LONG, private secretary to Governor Harmon, has for a quarter of a century enjoyed an enviable position at the bar of Miami County, Ohio, and has been identified, as stockholder and director, with numerous business enterprises of Troy, of which city he is a resident. He was born in Troy, Ohio, and is a son of Jacob F. Long, who was a carpenter by trade and first located in that city in 1854.

Mr. Long was reared in Miami County where he attended the public schools, being a graduate of Troy High School. After teaching one year in the schools of Troy he entered Dartmouth College and graduated therefrom with the degree of A. B., in 1879, after which he taught in the Portsmouth (Ohio) High School for a period of three years. He then returned to Troy and prepared himself for the legal profession in the office and under the direction of Hon. Theodore Sullivan. He was admitted to practice in 1884, and immediately thereafter opened an office in Troy. He practices before all State and Federal courts, and has been connected with much of the important litigation in Miami County. He has taken a more or less active interest in political affairs, and has at times been called upon to fill offices of public trust. He served as mayor of Troy, a member of the City Board of Education, as State senator from his district in 1898 and 1900, and in 1908 was appointed private secretary to Governor Harmon, upon the duties of which place he entered in January, 1909, at Columbus, Ohio.

George S. Long was united in marriage with Miss Lina Weller, a daughter of Capt. J. B. Weller of Troy, and they have one son, Frederick, who is a student in Dartmouth College. Fraternally, Mr. Long is a Scottish Rite Mason, and a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and the Elks. In religious attachment, he and his wife are members of the Episcopal Church.

ROBERT S. SPROUL, an esteemed citizen and retired farmer, residing in one of the pleasant homes of Troy, situated at No. 403 South Mulberry Street, belongs to one of the old pioneer families of Miami County. He was born July 2, 1846, in Elizabeth Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Samuel Sproul, who was a native of North Carolina.

Mr. Sproul was reared on a farm three miles south of Casstown, Miami County, and there engaged in farming and stock-raising for many years. In 1893 he retired to Troy and this city has been his home ever since. He takes a good citizen's interest in public matters and does his full share in charitable and benevolent work. He attends the Presbyterian Church.

In 1872 Mr. Sproul was married to Miss Clara Shidaker, who is a daughter of the late Henry C. Shidaker. He was born February 20, 1825, in Miami County, Ohio, and was a son of Valentine and Emily (Harter) Shidaker, the former of whom was a native of Maryland and the latter of Kentucky. The Shidaker family originated in Germany. The pioneer of the family in Miami County was Michael Shidaker, the great-grandfather of Mrs. Sproul, who came to Elizabeth Township in 1805 and entered Section 14, being one of the very earliest settlers. He was succeeded by his son Valentine, who died in 1846, leaving eight children: Mitchell, Lucy, Catherine, Henry C., Andrew, Jonathan, Sarah and Robert. In the course of time the property came to Henry C. Shidaker, who had remained on the old homestead during the lifetime of his parents. On October 8, 1847, he married Elizabeth Edmunds, of Virginia ancestry, and they had three children, namely: Lucy Matilda, Laura E., and Clara F. The Sproul family entered land about 1812 and to such families as the Sproul and Shidaker may be attributed the progress and development of Miami County, their thrift, enterprise and industry contributing to its material prosperity, and their sterling virtues to its excellent citizenship.

ALBERT NUTT, one of Bethel Township's excellent farmers, who cultivates his own fifty-four acres which is situated four and one-half miles east of Tippecanoe City, on the Studebaker and Pisgah Turnpike Road, and rents an additional twenty acres which adjoins his own land, was born in England, September 6, 1857, and is a son of James and Hannah (Whitehead) Nutt.

Albert Nutt is one of a family of eleven children, four of whom came to America. In 1884, Mr. Nutt came to the United States and when he reached Tippecanoe City, Ohio, he first worked as a nurseryman, this having been his business in his native land. Later he bought his present farm of William Ashworth. He has made all the improvements here, putting up the substantial buildings and making the place a valuable property.

In 1880 Mr. Nutt was married to Miss Alice Heaton, a daughter of Stephen Heaton, and they have three children: Annie, who resides at home; Emma, who married Edwin Weldy, and has one son; and May, who resides with her parents. Mr. Nutt and family attend the English Lutheran Church. Mr. Nutt does not give much attention to politics, but he has identified himself with the Republican party.

W. R. THOMPSON, M. D., who, for some thirty years has been in the active practice of medicine and surgery at Troy and enjoys a well earned reputation for professional skill, was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, where he was reared.

After completing the common school course in his native county, Dr. Thompson attended the Ohio Wesleyan College, going from there to the University of Michigan, where he was graduated from the medical department in 1869. He first took up practice in Tennessee, but after a year and a half he returned to Montgomery County and located at Vandalia, where he remained until 1879, when he came to Troy. Dr. Thompson is an active and valued member of the Miami County, the Ohio State, and the American Medical Associations. He is surgeon of the C. H. & D. Railroad and of the larger number of corporations of Troy and numbers patients from all this section of the State.

In 1871 Dr. Thompson was married to Miss Laura A. Stouder, of Tippecanoe City, Miami County, and they have three children, namely: Charlotte, who is the wife of W. E. Boyer, cashier of the Troy National Bank; Fannie E., who is the wife of Walter Coles; and Wilbur R., who is a student, in his sophomore year, in the University of Michigan. In addition to being eminent in his profession, Dr. Thompson is an active citizen, recognizing his responsibilities as such and lending his influence to everything of which his judgment approves as being beneficial to the community.

JAMES E. SIMES, of Covington, Miami County, Ohio, is clerk in charge in the railway mail service, running from Richmond, Indiana, to St. Louis, Missouri, and has been in the service since April 27, 1889. He was born at Sugar Grove, in Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, October 1, 1868, and is a son of Thomas J. and Mary E. (Berlin) Simes.

Thomas J. Simes was born in Thompsontown, Pennsylvania, July 24, 1842, and died in Covington, March 18, 1906. He was a miller by trade and at one time conducted what is now known as the Kindell Mills. He subsequently operated a grain elevator in Covington, and still later entered the fruit tree business at which he continued until his death. He was in 1867 married to Mary E. Berlin, who survives him, and they became parents of two sons and two daughters. In 1883 he united with the Christian Church, of which he was thereafter a liberal supporter. From early manhood he was affiliated with the Masonic Lodge. During the Civil War he served as a member of the Forty-fourth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and later was a member of the G. A. R. He was a man prominent in business, church and fraternal circles, and was well known over the county. For some years he served as a member of the Covington School Board.

James E. Simes was reared at Sugar Grove and attended the public schools at Covington, after which he completed a course in the Miami Commercial College at Dayton, Ohio. He was not yet of age when he entered the railway postal service during the administration of President Harrison and he has continued without interruption since. Mr. Simes was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Kriegbaum, a daughter of Conrad and Susan (Smith) Kriegbaum, and they have a daughter, Miriam Erla. Fraternally, he is past master of Covington Lodge, F. & A. M.

HARRY SHILLING, M. D., physician and surgeon at Troy, and junior member of the medical firm of Coleman & Shilling, was born at Troy, Ohio, in 1876, and is a son of Charles R. Shilling, of this city. After completing the High School course at Troy, where he was graduated in 1895, he was in the employ of a life insurance company for a time and then entered the department of medicine in the University of Cincinnati, where he was graduated with his degree, in 1903. During a term of eighteen months he gained practical experience as an interne in the Cincinnati Hospital, coming directly to Troy when he was prepared to enter into practice. He formed a partnership with Dr. Warren Coleman and the medical firm of Coleman & Shilling stands very high in the profession. He is a member of the Miami County and State Medical Societies and keeps fully informed concerning every development in modern medical science. In 1906 Dr. Shilling was married to Miss Clara Prugh, of Piqua, and they have one daughter, Katherine. Dr. Shilling is a member of the Baptist Church. Fraternally he is an Odd Fellow. He is a member of one of the old pioneer families of Miami County.

H. S. THOMPSON, one of the leading citizens and business men of Troy, Ohio, is identified with the Allen and Wheeler Company, and is engaged in farming on a large scale, owning three good farm properties in the county. He has been a resident of this city eight years.

Mr. Thompson was born in Saginaw, Michigan, in 1879, and received a preliminary education in the public schools of that place. He later completed a course at Williams College, in Massachusetts, and after leaving that institution went to Florida where he engaged in the lumbering business for two years. At the end of that time he came to Troy and became actively associated with the Allen & Wheeler Company. At the end of five years he turned his attention to farming, in addition, and he and his wife are the owners of the Stillwell farm in the outskirts of Troy, Mrs. Thompson owning also two other farms in Miami County. He is also largely interested in Florida lands, and is a prominent member of the Masonic Order, the Troy Club and the Island Outing Club. Mr. Thompson was in 1904 united in marriage with Miss Bessie Coleman, a daughter of Horace Coleman, and they make their residence at No. 503 South Market Street, in Troy. Religiously, they are members of the Episcopal Church.

THOMAS L. PURDY, whose accidental death, at Lima, Ohio, February 21, 1907, brought grief to a devoted family and sadness to a wide circle of friends all through Ohio, where he was very well known, was a native of Covington and a member of one of the old and representative families of Miami County. He was born at Covington, Ohio, December 22, 1850, and was a son of James L. Purdy.

Thomas L. Purdy was reared at Covington, Ohio, and obtained his education in her schools. He entered into business as a traveling salesman for a commercial house of Piqua, but after his marriage he resided for seven years on his father-in-law's farm in Newberry Township, Miami

County, after which he returned to Covington and entered the Weaver & Kendell drug store as a clerk. Subsequently, in association with L. A. Dollinger, he bought the store and continued to operate it until 1888, when he sold, having been connected with that place either as clerk or proprietor, for a period of ten years. He then accepted a position as traveling salesman, with the Columbus Pharmical Company, of Columbus, and later was connected, in the same capacity, with other concerns. Just prior to the accident which resulted in his death he had accepted a position as mail weigher in the railway mail service and was on his way to enter upon his duties at Napoleon, Ohio. He was struck by a locomotive at Lima and was hurried to a hospital, but no surgical skill was able to save his life.

On June 1, 1871, Mr. Purdy was married to Katherine Darner, who is a daughter of John L. and Mary (Mutz) Darner. John L. Darner was born near Frederick, Maryland, a son of Jacob Darner, and in boyhood accompanied his parents to Montgomery County, Ohio, and was reared on a farm six miles south of Dayton. In that county he was married, in 1848, to Mary Mutz, and they came immediately to Miami County, where he purchased a farm of 160 acres in Newberry Township, three and one-half miles north of Covington. On this farm Mrs. Purdy was reared. She was the eldest of five children, the others being: Mrs. Lucy Bartmess, who died in 1896; Mrs. Laura Reisner, whose husband, James W. Reisner, is connected with the Government service, in the U. S. Pension office, at Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Addie M. Darst, who lives on the old home farm; and Jessie, who is the wife of Dr. William Arthur Minton, of Bradford. The father of this family died in 1884 and the mother in August, 1907.

To Mr. and Mrs. Purdy were born four children, namely: Grace, who is the wife of James W. Brandon of Piqua; Lucy E.; Ethel, who is in partnership with Miss Gertrude Whitmer in the conduct of a millinery store at Covington; and John L., who is a resident of Dayton. He married Nellie Coppock, of Pleasant Hill, and they have one son, Thomas Henry. John L. Purdy is employed in the office of the Barney & Smith Car Company of Dayton.

The late Thomas L. Purdy was a man of Christian life and for many years had been a member of the Presbyterian Church. He was identified with the Knights of Pythias. During his many years of travel as a representative of business houses, he had formed many acquaintances and in almost every section had made personal friends.

B. W. JONES, D.D.S., the leading dental surgeon of Troy, has been a valued resident of this city for the past nineteen years. He was born in 1869, near West Unity, Fulton County, Ohio, but was mainly reared and obtained his literary training at Hudson, Michigan. After deciding upon dentistry as his chosen profession, Dr. Jones gave considerable attention to preliminary study and then entered the Indiana Dental College, at Indianapolis, where he was graduated in 1890 with his degree. He at once located at Troy, finding here a hearty recognition of his professional skill, and he has never had reason to regret his choice of home and business field. He is a member of the Ohio State Dental Association and he keeps thoroughly abreast of the times in the progress made in dental science. His office is conveniently maintained on the Public Square at No. 417½. He has additional business interests but devotes the larger part of his time and attention to his profession.

In 1893 Dr. Jones was married to Miss Nora May Lickly, of Hudson, Michigan, and they have one daughter, Josephine. He is a Knight Templar Mason and a Knight of Pythias, and he belongs to the Troy Club and the Troy Business Men's Association.

JOHN PENCE STOCKSTILL, a prominent retired farmer, residing on his valuable property of 160 acres, situated in Section 4, Bethel Township, one mile west of New Carlisle, has resided here for the past thirty years. He was born March 20, 1841, in Shelby County, Ohio, and is a son of Elias D. and Elizabeth (Shroyer) Stockstill.

Thomas Stockstill, the grandfather, was born in North Carolina, from which State he came to Ohio seeking a home where slavery was not permitted. He reached Dayton and at the one store which was then the only mercantile establishment in the place, he applied for work and was directed to J. Haines, who lived near Palmer Chapel, which he had built. Mr. Stockstill came up to the requirements of Mr. Haines and after working for him for one year was accepted as a son-in-law, Mr. Stockstill marrying Catherine Haines, the only daughter of his employer. A family of nine children was born to them, namely: Elias D., John, Stephen, Irvin J., Rachel, Sarah, Susan, Katherine and an infant daughter, who died unnamed. After marriage, Thomas Stockstill and wife established themselves on a farm of 130 acres near Palmer Chapel, to which Mr. Stockstill later added eighty acres. He served in the War of 1812 and for a number of months was stationed at the blockhouse at Sidney. He was a man of Christian life and character, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and a very earnest temperance worker. The ashes of both Thomas Stockstill and wife rest in the family vault on the old home farm in Miami County.

Elias D. Stockstill settled in Salem Township, Shelby County, Ohio, after his marriage, on land which he secured from the Government and continued to reside on that farm for thirty years, when he retired to Sidney, where the remainder of his life was spent. In his early years of political activity, he voted with the Democratic party, but for the twenty years preceding his death he was a Prohibitionist. Both he and wife were consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Sidney and they were buried in the cemetery belonging to that church. He married Elizabeth Shroyer, a daughter of Thomas Shroyer, and they had four children—Thomas, Elizabeth, David W. and John P.

John P. Stockstill went to school in his boyhood in Salem Township and he remembers the little log structure with its slab benches and its poor accommodations. He attended one term of school at Fort Jefferson, but just at that time the Civil War began and he determined to be a soldier. He enlisted in Company I, 118th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in which he served from August, 1862, until the close of the war, being mustered out at Chicago, Illinois. He took part in many hard fought battles and endured many of the hardships of military life, but survived them all. After the war he returned to Shelby County and then worked at the tinner's trade for ten years, at Sidney, after which he engaged in bridge-building for six years for the Chicago & Dayton Railroad. Shortly after his marriage he decided to settle on his present farm, which was then uncleared and unimproved property. In addition to clearing the land and putting up all buildings, he had to drain 200 rods. He retained four acres as a timber tract but put all the rest of the land in tillable shape and continued to cultivate it himself until others were able to assume the responsibility, when he retired from active labor.

He first married Mary L. Miller and they had two children—Carrie, who died at the age of eight years; and Bessie, who married O. B. Key, resides in Shelby County, and has three children, Frederick, Oat, and Allen.

On October 30, 1879, Mr. Stockstill was married, second, to Miss Jennie Varner, a daughter of Abraham and Elizabeth Varner, and they have had two children: Varner, and W. N. Stockstill.

In politics Mr. Stockstill is a Democrat and for one year he served as assessor of Bethel Township. He is a member of Palestine Commandery in the Masonic fraternity and belongs to the Odd Fellows and order of Rebecca, at New Carlisle.

J. WILLIAM NORRIS, a representative business man of Troy, who has been engaged in merchandising in this city almost since boyhood, occupies his handsome residence at No. 444 South Mulberry Street, and carries on his grocery at No. 449 South Mulberry, which modern structure he put up in 1890. He was born in 1865, in Indiana, and was only six months old when his parents came to Troy, where his father, H. P. Norris, died in 1895.

Mr. Norris was reared and educated at Troy and when only twelve years of age was already providing for his own support, serving as a clerk in a grocery store. In a few years he embarked in business for himself and since 1890 has been established at his present location. His business interests are confined to his own line, but all matters of public moment claim his attention and he is in every way a representative citizen. In 1887 Mr. Norris was married to Miss Nannie Curtis, of Miami County, and they have two children, Carl and Robert, the older son being in his father's employ. Mr. Norris and family belong to the Christian Church.

HARRY E. COOMBS, one of Bethel Township's representative citizens and for thirteen years a member of the School Board, carries on general farming on his two tracts of land, both lying in Section 16, one of thirty acres and the other of 174½ acres. He was born September 20, 1863, near Morgantown, in Monongalia County, West Virginia. His father was George Valentine Coombs and his grandfather was Elisha Coombs.

Elisha Coombs was born in Maryland, where he married Elizabeth Wright, and they had five children: George V., E. H., Frank, Emma W. and Harriet. About 1870 they came to Miami County and resided in the home of a daughter, at Troy, during the remainder of their lives. Elisha Coombs was a very earnest and active worker in the Methodist Episcopal Church, a leader in prayer meetings and experience meetings and served for years as a class leader. In politics he was a Whig and was opposed to slavery and on many occasions he assisted negroes to reach freedom.

George Valentine Coombs was born in Allegheny County, Maryland, where he lived until he was forty years of age, except for the time he spent in West Virginia. When he came to Ohio during the childhood of his son, Harry E., he settled on the farm of 174½ acres in Bethel Township, Miami County, which is now the property of his son. All the land had been cleared except ten acres and all the buildings with the exception of the barn were in good condition, but he found it necessary to drain eighteen acres. During the Civil War he was captain of a company in the 100-day service in West Virginia. In Bethel Township he took an active part in public matters, voted with the Republican party and served acceptably in a number of township offices. Late in life he retired to Troy, Miami County, Ohio, where he died in April, 1892. He belonged to an Odd Fellow lodge at Morgantown, West Virginia, and when he left West Virginia transferred to New Carlisle Lodge and was in good standing at his death. He was a charter member of Hickory Grove Grange, Bethel Township. Both he and wife were members of Pisgah Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he was a trustee for years. He married Sarah Anderson and they had seven children—Scott, Flora, two that died young, Frank, Harry E. and Emma, the survivors being Flora and Harry E.

Harry E. Coombs enjoyed excellent school advantages, attending the New Carlisle High School and Springfield College, after which he returned to receive practical farm training from his father, and this he has put to excellent use. When the homestead became his own property he added thirty acres to it, which he purchased from Frank Judd. He carries on extensive farming and fattens for market about two carloads of cattle every year.

Mr. Coombs was married October 1, 1889, to Miss Mary S. Johnston, a daughter of David A. and Abarilla E. (Stafford) Johnston, and they have three children: Howard J., Emma L. and Lois Elizabeth. The eldest was a member of the graduating class of the Bethel High School of 1909, the second, of the class of 1911, and only her tender years has kept the youngest yet in the Glenwood School in District No. 9. In their intellectual attainments and social qualities they are credits to their parents and the community.

Mr. Coombs completed a very fine residence in 1896 and has improved all his buildings with paint, making the whole place exceedingly attractive. He is a member of Hickory Grove Grange, of Bethel Township. With his family he attends the Presbyterian Church at New Carlisle.

SPAFFORD WOODHULL MAXWELL, a representative retired citizen of Staunton Township and a veteran of the Civil War, resides on his valuable farm of 102½ acres, which lies along the Troy and Piqua Turnpike, with the Dayton & Miami Railroad passing through it. He was born on his father's farm, near Franklin, Ohio, October 20, 1836, and is a son of Thomas and Susanna (Jones) Maxwell.

The paternal grandfather of Mr. Max-

SPAFFORD W. MAXWELL

MRS. RACHEL D. MAXWELL

well, Thomas Maxwell, was born in Scotland and came to America and settled in Monmouth County, New Jersey, prior to the Revolutionary War, and died in Ohio when aged eighty-two years. His family consisted of seven sons and two daughters. Of the sons, Thomas was one of the first born, in 1880, and he was six years old when the surviving members of the family decided to migrate to Ohio. The trip on the river was made on a flat-boat and landing was effected at Cincinnati. A few years later the family settled at Franklin, in Warren County, and there Thomas followed chairmaking for some years, and then bought a farm in Warren County, which he sold in 1839 and purchased the farm which his son, Spafford W., now owns, in Miami County. Its former owner was Caleb Hathaway, who had entered the land from the Government, and Mr. Maxwell has the old deed, which bears the signature of Thomas Jefferson, then President of the United States.

Thomas Maxwell the second spent the remainder of his life on this farm, his death occurring in October, 1881. He was twice married, (first) to Susanna Jones, who died on the present farm, in the fall of 1839, and (second) to Anna McCurdy, who came to Miami County from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. She died in 1872, leaving no issue. The four children born to the first union were: Stephen J., who is now deceased; Martha, deceased, who married William Duncan, also deceased; Rachel, deceased, who married J. Rowlands, also deceased; and Spafford Woodhull. The name borne by Mr. Maxwell was bestowed on him by his grandmother, in memory of a distinguished minister of New Jersey.

Spafford W. Maxwell was too young to remember the overland journey from Warren to Miami County, but he has very vivid recollections of his boyhood, which was spent in assisting his father to clear the farm and in attending school in the log structure provided for that purpose. He continued to live at home until 1864, when he entered the Federal army as a member of Company K, 147th Pennsylvania Infantry, under Capt. J. F. Counts. When the regiment reached Washington City he was promoted to be corporal of his company, and served in that rank until the close of the war. In the present year of universal commemoration of President Lincoln, he recalls with pleasure the time when he saw him, at Arlington Heights, in the last year of the war. Upon his return to private life, Mr. Maxwell resumed farming with his father, and in 1872 he purchased the place and for many years continued agricultural pursuits. He has done a large amount of improving. His commodious nine-room house is mainly of frame, but one part of it is a hewn-log structure, which was put up in 1818.

On January 8, 1868, Mr. Maxwell was married to Miss Rachel Devol, a daughter of Harrison Devol, an old poineer, and they have had seven children, namely: Minnie, who died in 1905, was the wife of Edwin Foster; Walter, who resides at Troy, Ohio, married Carrie Millhouse; Sallie, who married Frank Kendall, resides with her parents; Anna, who resides at Troy, married James Gunder; Bertha and Merta, twins, the former of whom is the wife of Harry Morrow, of Piqua, and the latter of whom died when aged eighteen years; and Wilber D., who resides on a farm near

Casstown, Miami County, and married Gertrude McDowell.

Mr. Maxwell and family belong to the Presbyterian Church, in which he has been an elder for some forty years. In his younger days he was a great Sunday School worker and served for a long time as superintendent of the school. In politics he is a Republican and has always taken much interest in public matters and at various times has acceptably served in township offices. He is a member of Coleman Post, G. A. R., at Troy, Ohio.

SAMUEL F. BERRYHILL, senior member of the firm of S. F. Berryhill & Son, dealers in poultry, eggs, produce and coal at Covington, was born on a farm in Brown Township, Miami County, Ohio, May 29, 1860, and is a son of A. M. and Catherine (Brelsford) Berryhill. The parents of Mr. Berryhill are both deceased. The father was a farmer and well-known stock dealer and trader, passing the larger portion of his life in the neighborhood of Fletcher, Ohio.

Samuel F. Berryhill was educated in the schools of Brown Township and engaged in farming until 1887, when he started in the poultry business at Fletcher, where he continued until he came to Covington, in 1906. For three years he was engaged in the clothing business at Enid, Oklahoma, in partnership with his son. Mr. Berryhill purchased a farm of 140 acres in Brown Township, on which he raises cattle and hogs and has the land under rental. He has been in his present business for twenty-two years and has associated his son Carl with him, under the firm name of S. F. Berryhill & Son.

In March, 1909, a stock company was formed for the manufacture of ice, known as The Covington Artificial Ice Company, with a capital stock of $15,000 and with the following officers: S. F. Berryhill, president; J. W. Ruhl, vice-president; C. C. Shuman, secretary and treasurer. The plant will have a capacity of fifteen tons per day.

Mr. Berryhill was married in 1880 to Miss Jennie E. Smith, who was reared at St. Mary's, Ohio, a daughter of James B. Smith. They have one son, Carl A., who married Miss Cora Shaw, of Oklahoma. Carl A. Berryhill belongs to the Elks and both he and father are members of the Knights of Pythias. The firm of S. F. Berryhill & Son is a representative one in Covington business circles.

REV. GOSWIN B. MENGE, the present assistant at St. Boniface Church, Piqua, Ohio, has accomplished much for the good of the church and its members, in spite of the fact that he is the youngest clergyman ever stationed in this county. Born at 952 Hatch Street, Mt. Adams, Cincinnati, Ohio, on February 3, 1883, he received his primary schooling at the Immaculata. Completing the course in 1896, he entered St. Xavier College, the most famous Roman Catholic institution for higher education throughout the Ohio Valley. Seldom meditating on a future career, with but one end in view, the obtaining of a thorough college education, Father Menge devoted much time to particular studies, receiving special instructions in various branches. Under the direction of Rev. James Shannon, S. J., he obtained a special course in electricity, which has proven of much advantage to him even in his ecclesiastical career. Determined to obtain a knowledge of the people in general he plunged into politics and frequently assisted at primaries and conventions. In June, 1903, he graduated from St. Xavier, obtaining the degree of Bachelor of Arts.

The future was a matter Father Menge seldom considered, but his thoughts were turned in this direction by the death of his brother Lawrence. After mature deliberation, and seeking counsel from both friends and foes, he chose an ecclesiastical career, entering Mt. St. Mary's Seminary of the West the September following his graduation from St. Xavier. Being ordained priest by Archbishop Moeller in June, 1907, he was assigned to Rev. George P. Steinlage as assistant.

Father Menge is a devoted son of his Alma Mater, a member of its Alumni Association, and of the Xothree Club, a society composed of the members of the Xavier Class of '03. He is the first assistant sent to St. Boniface Church direct from the Seminary, and his motto, "Bigotry is ignorance," has gained for him many non-Catholic friends.

REV. JOHN H. SNELL, general farmer and representative citizen of Bethel Township, residing on his valuable estate of eighty-one and one-half acres, was born in Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio, November 3, 1849, and is a son of Daniel and Susannah (Detrick) Snell.

Daniel Snell was born in 1814, in Rockingham County, Virginia, and was twenty-five years of age when he came to Miami County and took up his residence in Bethel Township, from which he later moved to Clark County, where he died in August, 1893. In politics he was an old-time Democrat. He married Susannah Detrick, who died February 2, 1895, and both were buried in a cemetery not far from Springfield, Clark County. They were worthy members of the German Baptist Church. They had eight children, namely: Barbara, Elizabeth, Catherine, Jacob, Daniel, Philip, John H. and Abraham.

John H. Snell was afforded excellent educational advantages and made good use of them. For several years he attended school at Lawrenceville, Clark County, then spent two terms in Springfield College, after which he embraced teaching as his profession, devoting himself to this for the succeeding thirteen years, three of which were spent in Kansas. After he married, in 1877, he had settled in Clark County, where he taught school and also engaged in farming, after which he visited Kansas, where he lived on a farm for six years, being recalled to Clark County on account of his father's failing health. He remained there for two years and then purchased his present fine farm in Bethel Township, Miami County, from Milton Sensman. This farm is favorably located, being situated four and one-half miles west of New Carlisle and reached by the Studebaker Turnpike Road. He found all the present buildings standing, but repairs were needed, and he has done considerable improving since taking charge of his property. Grain, hay, fruit and stock are the products of his farm.

On December 2, 1877, Mr. Snell was married to Miss Susanna Neher, a daughter of Adam Neher, and they have had two children: Edgar A., who died October 25, 1900; and John D., who married Media

Chalk, a daughter of William Chalk. They have two children, Milo and Thelma.

Mr. Snell and family are members of the old German Baptist Church of Bethel Township, in which he has been a minister for the past five years. Like his father, he is a Democrat.

LEWIS C. GESSAMAN, one of Bethel Township's substantial citizens, engages in general farming on his ninety acres of valuable land, which is situated not far from the village of Phoneton. He was born on this farm in Miami County, November 8, 1856, and is a son of George J. and Malinda (Fluke) Gessaman.

The Gessaman family is numbered with the old representative ones of Bethel Township. The grandfather, George Gessaman, came to Ohio from Pennsylvania, accompanied by his wife, and reached the little frontier town of Dayton in 1811. There they were directed into the great wilderness where they had located a claim of 160 acres in the forests of Bethel Township, and their grandson, Lewis C. Gessaman, has the old sheepskin deed from the Government, which cemented the contract.

George Gessaman was a typical pioneer, and before his strong arm the giants of the forest fell to make room for the building of his first cabin. On his cleared land he carefully planted the cherry stones he had thoughtfully brought from his old Pennsylvania home, and these transplanted seeds in the course of years produced the fine cherry orchard which his descendants now enjoy the fruit of. No trace is left of the buildings he put up, but it was his industry and strength that cleared up the larger part of the original farm. It is certain that at one time he was a soldier and in all probability he fought in the War of 1812. He died in 1839, his wife a few years later, and their burial was in Bethel Cemetery. They were among the founders of the German Reformed Church in this section.

George J. Gessaman, father of Lewis C., was born March 19, 1819, on the farm which is now owned by the latter. He was twenty years old when his father died and he took charge of the home farm and also of two eighty-acre farms in Indiana, which had been willed to his two sisters. He gave filial care to his mother as long as she lived. He acquired other land in addition to the homestead and at the time of his death owned 182 acres, which he divided among his children. He erected the substantial buildings now in use, including the fine brick residence. He was never a politician, but he always took an interest in public affairs, especially those in connection with the good government of the township, casting his vote with the Republican party. Both he and his wife were worthy members of the German Reformed Church. During the Civil War he was twice drafted; on the first occasion he paid a substitute, and on the second he was found to have passed the age limit. He died March 9, 1894, his wife having passed away February 13, 1882, and both were buried in the Bethel Cemetery. He was married in early manhood to Malinda Fluke, a daughter of John Fluke, and thirteen children were born to them, all of whom reached mature years with the exception of the four eldest—John George, John Peter, David and Margaret. The others were named respectively: Sarah, Harriet, Lavina, Martha, Charlotte, Lewis C., William L., Sylvester G., and Grant.

Lewis C. Gessaman first attended the Poplar Grove school near his home and had only the educational chances which came to country boys in more or less isolated regions in his youth. He worked for his father until he purchased the farm, and has spent his whole life on the old place. The land was all cleared when he came into possession and all the improving he has found necessary has been the putting up of a few buildings, with a little repairing and draining. The land has been well fertilized and carefully cultivated by its three owners and if placed on the market would bring a large price per acre. Mr. Gessaman is a stockholder and one of the directors of the City National Bank of Tippecanoe City.

On December 2, 1888, Mr. Gessaman was married to Miss Margaret E. Warner, daughter of Amos Warner. Mrs. Gessaman died February 15, 1903, and was interred in the new cemetery at Bethel. She is survived by one son, Ernest L., who attends school. Mr. Gessaman was married (second) December 27, 1905, to Miss Luella Perry, a daughter of Cyrus Perry. They are members of the Reformed Church, of Bethel, Mr. Gessaman being an elder. In his political sentiments he is a Republican. At one time he was identified with the Grange and also with the Odd Fellows.

WILLIAM HARRISON HELMER, a representative citizen of Lost Creek Township, residing on a tract of ten well improved acres, situated on the Troy and Urbana Turnpike Road, about nine miles northeast of Troy, also owns a fine farm of sixty acres in this township, which is now operated by his son. He was born August 14, 1860, on his father's farm in Concord Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of William Jasper and Sarah Elizabeth (Reeder) Helmer.

William Jasper Helmer was born in 1828, in Green County, Ohio, and was a son of Peter and Mary (Yates) Helmer, the former of whom was born in Germany and the latter in the State of New York. Peter Helmer and wife came to Ohio when all this section was a wilderness, journeying down the river to Cincinnati in a flatboat and settling near Osborn, in Green County, where both died when advanced in years. Their ashes rest in the old Helmer family graveyard there. All their seven children have also passed away: Arthur, Solomon, William J., Elmira, Ellen, Sarah and Minerva.

William Jasper Helmer spent his entire life in Ohio, during his earlier years operating a farm near Osborn. In 1870 he moved to Miami County and purchased a farm near the Studebaker Woolen Factory in Elizabeth Township and for some ten years carried on the farm and worked with his sons in the factory. He died on that farm in February, 1900. In 1854 he was married in Greene County, to Sarah Elizabeth Reeder, a native of Clark County, Ohio. She still survives and resides one-half mile east of the Orphans' Home, on the Troy and Springfield Turnpike. To William J. Helmer and wife were born the following children: George Washington, who lives in Elizabeth Township; Belle, who is the wife of Albert Gabriel, of Lost Creek Township; William Harrison; Dora, who is the wife of William Marr, of Missouri; Minnie, now deceased, who was the wife of Isaac Dye; Ellen, who is the wife of Thomas Dewey, of Elizabeth

Township; Mary, who is the wife of Samuel Stoner, of Texas; Harriet, who is the wife of Samuel Harris, of Springfield, Ohio; and Blanche, who is the wife of Charles Folkerth, of West Milton, Ohio. William J. Helmer served in the Civil War and was honorably discharged.

William H. Helmer attended the district schools in his youth, helped his father on the home farm and continued to live at home until his marriage. For ten years he worked in the Studebaker Woolen mills, and in November, 1883, bought his farm of sixty acres, in Lost Creek Township. It was known as the old Rev. Rapp farm and was then owned by Daniel Flook. He continued to work that farm until July, 1907, when he turned it over to his son and retired to his present small place, which contains enough land to keep him busily employed without making any heavy demands on his strength or time.

Mr. Helmer was married (first) on January 16, 1884, to Miss Mary Eddy, who died May 31, 1892. She was a daughter of William and Emeline Eddy. Two children were born to that marriage: Bessie, who married Carl Thackara, and lives in Champaign County; and Charles, who resides on his father's large farm, married Lillian Bair, and has one child, Reeva. On June 3, 1893, Mr. Helmer was married (second) to Miss Josephine Weatherhead, a daughter of John and Mary Weatherhead. In politics Mr. Helmer is a Democrat. He has served frequently in township offices and for ten years was road superintendent.

DAVIS MARTINDALE, owner of a well improved farm of 104 acres in Staunton Township, Miami County, Ohio, comes of a prominent and influential family of the county. He was born on the home farm in Monroe Township, August 2, 1861, and is a son of John and Delilah (Macey) Martindale. His grandfather, John Martindale, Sr., came to Ohio from the East at an early date and settled in Montgomery County, near the Miami County line. There he resided until his death at a ripe old age.

John Martindale, Jr., was born on the old home place in Montgomery County, and was one of the following children born to his parents: Robert, Martin, William, Jessie, Samuel, Stewart, Martha, Rachel, Rebecca, Mary, Cynthia Ann, and John. He spent his boyhood in helping to clear the old farm, and received a very limited schooling. Farming continued to be his occupation throughout his active career, and he achieved a higher degree of success than the average. After his marriage he purchased eighty acres of land in Monroe Township, Miami County, and to this later added eighty acres, and this continued as his home until he and his wife moved to Tippecanoe City, where they are spending the twilight of life in the peace and comfort of retired life. He became the owner of many valuable tracts in various parts of Miami and Montgomery Counties, aggregating hundreds of acres. He sold each of his sons good farms and still retains more than 500 acres. The foundation of his fortune was two thousand five hundred dollars, and his rise to affluence came through hard work, foresight and good business judgment. He was united in marriage with Delilah Macey, who also was born in Montgomery County, and their children are as follows: Henry Davis, subject of this record, who has 104 acres located in Staunton Township, two and a half miles southeast of Troy; William, who is the owner of 103 acres in Butler Township, Montgomery County; Warren, who has 111 acres in Monroe Township, Miami County; Edward, whose farm of eighty acres is also located in Monroe Township; and Ella, who is the wife of Samuel Near, of Miami County.

Davis Martindale spent his boyhood days on the home farm and, being the eldest child, started in to work for his father when quite young. He started operating his present farm as early as the spring of 1883, but did not purchase it until 1893. He has spent about $4,500 in improvements and has a' very desirable property in all its appointments. He has always followed general farming along modern ideas, and takes rank among the progressive citizens of the township. He was elected to the Miami County Fair Board in 1907, and has since served capably in that capacity.

February 26, 1887, Davis Martindale was united in marriage with Miss Laura Ella Eidemiller, a native of Monroe Township, and a daughter of John and Augusta Eidemiller, who came to this county from Germany. Three children are the issue of this union: Edith, Vernon and Blanche. The subject of this sketch is a Republican in politics, has been a member of the Central Committee since 1908, and has served as school director.

SAMUEL ZOLLINGER, president and treasurer of The S. Zollinger Company, wholesale grocers, at Piqua, vice-president of the Citizens' National Bank, of Piqua, and financially interested in other large enterprises, stands among the leading business men of this city. Mr. Zollinger was born in Licking County, Ohio, August 22, 1838, and is a son of John and Susanna (Whitmore) Zollinger.

The father of Mr. Zollinger was a prominent citizen of Piqua for many years. In 1848 he established himself here in the retail grocery business, in which he continued until 1881, his active career closing only with his death. For a number of years he served the township as trustee and his good judgment and thorough and practical methods were beneficial to his community as long as he lived. He married Susanna Whitmore and they reared a family of two sons and two daughters, namely: Samuel, the subject of this sketch; J. W., who died in 1905; Mary C., residing at Piqua, who is the widow of Dr. Knouff; and Matilda, who also resides at Piqua.

Samuel Zollinger became a clerk in his father's store after his education was completed in the Piqua schools, and continued there until 1860. He then went to California, remaining in that State until 1863. When he came back to Piqua he entered into partnership with his father and ever since has been identified with the leading interests of this city, and succeeding his father as treasurer of Washington Township, an office held by John Zollinger at the time of his death, in 1881. The son has served in this office ever since. Mr. Zollinger continued in the retail line until 1890, when the present company was formed by S. and J. W. Zollinger and the business ever since has been exclusively wholesale and conducted under the name of The S. Zollinger Company. Mr. Zollinger has other important business interests, including a large interest in the Cron-Kills Company, manufacturers of furniture.

In November, 1871, Mr. Zollinger was married to Miss Dora Dye, a member of one of the pioneer families of Miami County, and they have two children: Susan, who is the wife of J. P. Spiker, a manufacturer at Piqua; and Mary C., who is the wife of Frank McEwan, a resident of Madison, New Jersey. Mr. and Mrs. Zollinger are members of the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is treasurer. He is a thirty-second degree Mason, belonging to the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Council at Piqua, to Troy Commandery and Dayton Consistory, and he has been treasurer of the Chapter since 1871. He is also a member of the Piqua Club and is one of the directors of the Memorial Hospital.

O. T. ROSZELL, grain dealer, with business quarters on South Mulberry Street, Troy, was born in 1858, near Tippecanoe City, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Rev. Joseph Roszell.

The father of Mr. Roszell was born in 1822, in New Jersey, and was nine years of age when he was brought to Montgomery County, Ohio, and sixteen when he came to Miami County. He was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

O. T. Roszell obtained his education in his native township and also at Tippecanoe City, and followed an agricultural life until he was about twenty-four years of age. After his marriage he came to Troy and at first engaged in a grain business, but shortly afterward sold out and for a few months was interested in furniture manufacturing. Deciding that Tippecanoe City at that time offered a better field for that business, he moved there and continued in the manufacture of furniture for ten years. He then carried on a milling and grain business at New Carlisle for three years, after which he came to Troy and established his present enterprise, first under the style of Roszell & Hale. On account of poor health, Mr. Hale withdrew, and since then Mr. Roszell has been sole proprietor under his own name. He deals in grain, seed, feed, etc., and is a representative business man of the city.

In 1887 Mr. Roszell was married to Miss Blanche Hale, a daughter of John Hale, of Miami County. They have five children, namely: Mabel, who is a member of the graduating class of 1909 at the Troy High School; Clarence, Earl and Ralph, all students; and Dorothy, the youngest. Mr. Roszell is identified with both the Masons and Odd Fellows.

LEWIS EDWARD SIMES, postmaster at Covington, Ohio, and president of the Covington Tribune Company and secretary of the Covington Home Telephone Company, is one of the prominent and representative citizens of Miami County, Ohio. He was born at Covington, May 7, 1873, and is a son of E. D. and Margaret (Stailey) Simes.

The late Edward D. Simes, whose death occurred at Covington, March 6, 1909, was a hero of the Civil War, and for years thereafter was engaged in business at Covington. He was born in Juniata County, Pennsylvania, March 5, 1840, and in early boyhood accompanied his parents to Miami County, spending almost his entire after-life at Covington. In response to President Lincoln's call for soldiers in 1862, he enlisted in Company G, 110th Regiment O. Vol. Inf., and gained promotion from rank to rank until he was commissioned first lieutenant. For several years he escaped the more serious hazards of war, but in 1864, in the Shenandoah Valley, while on duty, he was so seriously shot that he was taken first to a hospital at Winchester and subsequently sent home on sick leave, and before he had sufficiently recovered the war was over. He had two brothers in the army, one of whom died in the Wilderness and the other after the war. Mr. Simes assumed business responsibilities at Covington, in the course of time, and these he fulfilled carefully and effectively until failing health caused his withdrawal from active life. At times he served both on the City Council and the School Board. He was married April 14, 1868, to Miss Margaret Stailey, who died May 1, 1893, this domestic affliction being one from which he never recovered. Their three children are two sons, Lewis Edward and George Miles, and one daughter, Mrs. May Simes Rothermel. Mr. Simes was a consistent member of the Christian Church and very active in all its avenues of usefulness. He was a member and frequently an official of Covington Lodge, No. 168, F. & A. M.

Lewis Edward Simes was educated in the Covington schools and for eleven years was associated with his father in a retail grocery business, after which he entered the telephone business, and since the Covington Home Telephone Company was first organized has been its secretary. He is identified with other interests and is president and one of the organizers of the Covington Tribune Company, successors to the Tribune Printing Company. Mr. Simes was married to Miss Irene Edge, daughter of W. W. Edge, of Troy, Ohio, where Mrs. Simes was born and reared. They have two children, Margaret and Mary. He is a thirty-second degree Mason, an Elk, a Knight of Pythias, and also a member of the Ancient and Honorable Order of Gobblers. In politics Mr. Simes is a Republican and is serving his first term as postmaster, his administration meeting with the approval of his fellow citizens.

ORIN A. and BERT ESTEY, who farm the old Jotham Estey place of 243 acres, located in Staunton and Lost Creek Townships, are industrious and prosperous young business men, with a wide acquaintance through this section of Miami County. They are sons of Jotham S. Estey, who is now living in retirement on the old homestead in Lost Creek Township.

The first of the Estey family to locate in Miami County, Ohio, was David Estey, grandfather of the subjects of this sketch, who was born in New Brunswick, July 31, 1792. He was there married, on September 30, 1813, to Ann Knoop, and after the birth of their first child they moved to Miami County, Ohio, where he was among the pioneers. He settled on a wild and uncleared piece of land in Lost Creek Township, for which he subsequently got a deed from the United States Government, signed by President Andrew Jackson. He had followed lumbering in New Brunswick, and upon locating here erected water sawmills along Lost Creek, finding a ready market for his lumber in Dayton and Cincinnati. He prospered in a business way and added to his possessions until he had 500 acres of very desirable land. He continued to reside here until his death, in November, 1874. His wife, who was born March 19, 1791, died in 1873. They were parents of eleven children, as follows, all but the eldest of whom were born in Miami County: James; Michael; Eunice, who was the wife of A. Deffenbaugh; Charles; George; Simon; Mary, who was the wife of J. U. Eyer; William; Lucy, who married Henry Deweese; Jotham; and Maria, who is the wife of James Dickson and lives in Iowa. The two last named are the only ones living.

Jotham Estey was born on the old homestead in Lost Creek Township, October 5, 1833, and spent his boyhood days working in the woods and fields. His education was limited to the "three R's." He was eighteen years of age when the Gold Fever carried him across the plains to California, where he remained for five years, his time being mainly devoted to lumbering. He went in 1852, and in 1857 returned to Ohio, bringing with him $3,000 in gold dust. He then purchased eighty acres in Lost Creek Township, where he still lives. It was then mostly swamp and timber, and it took some years of hard work to clear and tile it, many miles of tile having been used. He now has 243 acres, of which 180 lie in Lost Creek Township and sixty-three in Staunton Township.

In January, 1858, Mr. Estey was united in marriage with Miss Mary Jane Hosier, who, after a little more than half a century of wedded happiness, passed away on February 23, 1908, at the age of sixty-seven years. They brought into this world five children, namely: Clara, deceased wife of Sylvester Robbins; Orin A.; Elizabeth, wife of Lavell Williams; Grant, whose home is in Kansas; and Bert. Jotham Estey is a Republican in politics. He is a member of the Union Baptist Church, to which his wife also belonged.

Orin A. Estey, who lives on the sixty-three acres of the farm lying in Staunton Township, was born on the home place in Lost Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, June 15, 1861. He spent his boyhood in working on the farm and in attending the public schools. Being the eldest son, the care of the farm fell upon his shoulders while quite young. He follows general farming and is meeting with much success. October 28, 1885, he was united in marriage with Miss Mattie Small, a daughter of David Small, and they have two children, Mary Ellen and James. He has always taken a deep interest in the affairs of Staunton Township, and at one time served as township trustee, to which office he was elected on the Republican ticket. He and his wife are members of the Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church.

Bert Estey was born on the old home farm in Lost Creek Township, September 28, 1878, and resided there until his marriage on December 19, 1900. He then rented land and engaged in farming for seven years. After the death of his mother, he in the spring of 1908 returned to the old farm in order to provide a home for his father. In January, 1907, he embarked in the threshing business, which he has since followed with good results, having a complete threshing outfit; and during the winter he operates a feed mill. He is a Republican in politics. Mr. Estey's marriage was with Miss Elizabeth Viola Studebaker, a daughter of Joseph M. and Mary Ann (Clyne) Studebaker, of Elizabeth Township, and four children were born to them: Mary, who died at the age of one year nine months and eighteen days; Olivene C., Jay S., and Alva G.

WILLIAM H. CROMER, who is engaged in general farming and tobacco raising on a tract of 120 acres, located about six and a half miles east of Troy, in Lost Creek Township, has been a lifelong resident of Miami County. He was born June 10, 1848, at Casstown, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Elnathan and Mary (Garver) Cromer.

Elnathan Cromer was a native of Virginia and when a young man came to Ohio with his father, who located at Casstown, Miami County, and here engaged in agricultural pursuits for a number of years. He was first united in marriage with Sarah Cavault, who died leaving four children, namely: Catherine, who married Saben McDowell, and both are deceased; Albert, and two who died young. Elnathan subsequently married Mary Garver, a native of Ohio and the mother of our subject, and of this union were born the following children: William, the subject of this record; Eliza, widow of Mathias Dye; Harriet, wife of Benjamin Morgan; and Caroline, who is the wife of B. F. Smith. Mr. Cromer formed a third marital union with Catherine Beer, who is still living at the advanced age of eighty-five years, and resides at the home of our subject. Mr. Cromer died in 1893, aged eighty-five years.

William H. Cromer was but a small child when his parents removed from Casstown to the farm on which he now resides, and where he was reared and attended the district schools of the township. At an early age he turned his attention to farming and when about twenty years of age took entire charge of his father's farm, of which he became possessor after the death of his father. Here he has always followed farming in a general way, making a specialty of growing tobacco, of which he raises from ten to twelve acres yearly. The large brick house which Mr. Cromer and family occupy was erected during his father's lifetime, but the greater part of the improvements on the farm were made by him.

Mr. Cromer was united in marriage March 27, 1870, with Mary Jane Harvey, who is a daughter of William and Ruth (Brown) Harvey, well known residents of Champaign County, Ohio, and of their union were born the following children: Clara, Howard B., Hettie C., Clyde R., and Eddie. Clara resides at home. Howard B., an enterprising young attorney, of Dayton, Ohio, has offices in the U. B. Building on Main Street. His primary education, which was obtained in the district schools of Lost Creek Township, was supplemented by a course of study at the Fletcher and Piqua High Schools, of both of which he is a graduate. He then took a seven-years' course in law at the Ohio State University, at Columbus, and is one of the only three who ever completed the course in a period of five years. He graduated in 1907, and shortly afterward embarked in the practice of his profession at Dayton, where he has been eminently successful. Hettie C. Cromer died in infancy, as did also Clyde R. and Eddie, who were twins. Mr. Cromer is a man of public spirit and enterprise and is ever ready to support those measures which tend toward the advancement of the community in which he lives. He is politically a Democrat.

FRANKLIN A. DeWEESE, the well known florist and horticulturist of Staunton Township, Miami County, Ohio, has a tract of nineteen acres, on which he has three large and modernly equipped greenhouses. He has lived all his life in the county, except for a brief period in Indiana, and has been closely identified with the affairs of Staunton Township, being at the present time a member of the School Board. He was born on his father's farm in Staunton Township, September 19, 1854, and is a son of Henry G. and Lucy (Estey) DeWeese, and a grandson of Joshua DeWeese.

Joshua DeWeese, the grandfather, was born in Virginia and was a young man when he settled in the woods of Miami County, living the remainder of his days in Staunton Township. He died in middle life as the result of a kick from a horse. In June, 1818, he was married to Polly Gerard, who was the first white child born in Miami County. She survived her husband many years and died at the home of one of her children.

Henry G. DeWeese was the third of his parents' fourteen children, and was a native of Staunton Township, being born on the old home place, January 8, 1826. Although he did not have the advantage of schooling, he acquired a superior education and was a broad and liberal-minded man. He was a Republican in politics and served the township efficiently as trustee for many years. He was reared to farming, and after leaving the home place purchased the Edward Harter farm in Staunton Township, later buying what became known as the Defrese farm. On this property he conducted a stone quarry, and on October 19, 1874, was seriously injured while blasting. He never recovered from his injuries, almost losing his eyesight, and from that time on lived in practical retirement. His death occurred at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Arminta Moore, May 28, 1904, at the age of seventy-eight years. He was married August 26, 1848, to Miss Lucy Estey, who was born in Miami County, February 22, 1830, and died at the age of sixty-eight years. They became parents of the following children: Arminta, wife of Theodore Moore; Zelia, wife of William Loy; Jotham G. W.; Franklin A.; Henry H.; Maggie, deceased wife of A. Beedle; Florence, deceased wife of George McKaig; Docia E., wife of Charles Wilson, residing in California; and Alva Watson, of Piqua.

Franklin A. DeWeese spent his boyhood days on the farm and when he could be spared from the farm work attended the district schools, his school days being very limited. After his marriage he went to Shelby County, and ran his father's farm at Anna Station one year, after which he took charge of the stone quarry for his father for two years. He rented a farm from his father a few years, and in 1882 bought his present farm from his brother, Harry DeWeese, the house on it having been completed the year previously. He farmed this in connction with the farm of his uncle, Simon Estey, and later he erected a small greenhouse, 60x12 feet, which he heated by furnace. He later erected a hothouse 72x20 feet, another 72x25 feet, and still later a third one, 12x72 feet. He makes a specialty of lettuce and spring flowers, and has built up a large and well paying business. He puts out about 2,000 or 3,000 geraniums each year, which he sells to the citizens of Troy, and he also raises many plants.

November 20, 1879, he was united in marriage with Miss Nettie Small, a daughter of David B. and Ellen (Conklin) Small. Her father was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, and was a mere baby when they came to Miami County, one of his treasured possessions at the present time being a little rocking-chair they had for him at the time of his arrival here. Mr. Small was born in New York State and was three years of age when the family moved from there to Miami County. The Small family in generations back were all great hunters, and Mrs. DeWeese is an expert in the use of firearms. Mr. and Mrs. DeWeese are parents of the following children: Lester, who married Nellie Knoop and has a daughter, Virginia; Clyde, who married Mary McClung and has a son, Orville; Mattie, wife of George Shroyer; Elwood, who assists his father at the hothouses; and May, who is a freshman in Piqua High School. Religiously they are members of the Christian Church. He is a Republican in politics and formerly served as pike superintendent. He is at the present a member of the School Board. Fraternally he is a member of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics.

J. W. SIMMONS, an extensive grower of fruit and vegetable plants, is a substantial citizen and business man of Casstown, Miami County, Ohio. From a small and unassuming start, he has built up a large business and has a larger demand for his products than he can fill. He was born at Panola, Mississippi, March 25, 1844, and is a son of John and Agnes (Patterson) Simmons.

John Simmons, father of the subject of this sketch, was born near Huntsville, Alabama, and when a young man went to Columbia, Tennessee. There he was married to Agnes Patterson, who was born within the shadow of the Natural Bridge in Virginia. After marriage they moved to Panola, Mississippi, where they remained for a time, and then located on a plantation in that vicinity, Mr. Simmons becoming a large cotton raiser. He was a strong Democrat in politics, and stumped his county for James K. Polk for president. It was his desire to name the subject of this sketch and his twin brother, Polk and Dallas, respectively, in honor of the president and vice-president who had been recently elected. He died in 1850, while in the prime of life. He and his wife were parents of the following children: William J., deceased; James F., deceased; Virginia E., wife of George Rutledge, of Dayton, Ohio; Charles, a twin, who died at the age of nine months; and John Woodruff, a twin to Charles. Ten years after the death of her first husband, Mrs. Simmons formed a second marital union with James McCandless, who died in 1879. She survived him until 1892, when she, too, passed away.

John W. Simmons was a mere child when his parents moved from Panola to the plantation, and was six years old at his father's death. The year following the family moved to Dayton, Ohio, where he lived until his seventeenth year. At the time of his leaving, that city had a population of about 22,000, and was without water works, steam engines in connection with the fire department, a police force, or the various other departments which now characterize a city of that importance. He went to live upon the farm of his stepfather, James McCandless, in Lost Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, which the latter had settled upon as early as 1828.

He always had the greatest respect for Mr. McCandless, who treated him with paternal kindliness. He remained on that place until he entered the army during the Civil War. He entered the state service in 1863, and in May, 1864, became a 100-day man in the regular service, being on duty in the vicinity of the City of Washington. Upon receiving his honorable discharge he returned to Miami County, and was married the following year. He then located at his present place in Casstown, but continued to farm until 1874. He then began raising small plants, at which he has been so successful. He first bought two acres of land here at $200 per acre, for which he went in debt, and he now owns three good residence properties in addition to his garden plot. He began without a dollar he could call his own and no experience, and the progress made by him is best shown by a partial statement of his products in 1908. He raised 35,000 cabbage, 25,000 tomato, 8,000 mango and 45,000 sweet potato plants. He also shipped 240,000 strawberry and 54,000 raspberry plants. He has fourteen beds, all under glass, and equipped in the most modern fashion. In thirty-four years he has never failed to have a crop.

In 1865 Mr. Simmons was united in marriage with Miss Effie Yaste, who was born in Maryland and was six years old when brought by her parents to Miami County, Ohio, making the trip in a carriage. She is a daughter of Colonel Samuel and Mary (Youtsey) Yaste, her father having been colonel of a regiment organized during the War of 1812. They have one son, Frank Simmons, who is in partnership with his father in the horticultural business. Frank was first married to Myrtle Jones, who died six years later, and he subsequently formed a second union with Miss Alta Everingham, by whom he has a son, Paul. J. W. Simmons has always been as staunch a Republican as his father was a Democrat before him. He served two terms capably as township treasurer, in 1892 and in 1894. He is a member of Coleman Post, G. A. R., at Troy.

CHARLES E. GAINES, M. D., a well known physician and surgeon of Covington, where he has been located since 1898, is serving his second term as coroner of Miami County, Ohio. He was born on a farm in Champaign County, Ohio, October 21, 1858, and is a son of Moses T. and Ann (Grafton) Gaines.

Dr. Gaines was reared on the farm and attended the district schools and Urbana High School, from which he was graduated in 1875. He then returned to the farm for a time, and later entered Oberlin College. He in 1878 began teaching school, at which he continued for two years, and during this time began the study of medicine under the preceptorship of Dr. B. F. Baker, of St. Paris. He represented a drug house on the road for some years in order to secure the means of completing his professional training, and later attended the medical department of the University of Kentucky, from which he received the degree of M. D. in 1890. He moved to Covington in 1898 and soon gained a high position in the profession of the county. In 1905 he was first elected county coroner, and in 1908 was re-elected for a term of three years. He has proved a man of exceptional ability, and in his conscientious discharge of his duties of of-

RALPH H. GIBSON

fice has gained the commendation and high esteem of the public.

Charles E. Gaines was united in marriage with Miss Laura Stevens, and they have three children, namely: Dr. Waldo Gaines, who is in partnership with his father in practice and is a graduate of Central College of Physicians and Surgeons at Indianapolis, Indiana; Mabel, the wife of Clifford Townsend, who has a daughter, Virginia Ann; and Thaddora, who is the youngest and unmarried. Doctor Gaines is a member of the Miami County Medical Society, and of the Knights of Pythias. In politics he is consistent in his advocacy and support of Republican principles. Religiously he is a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Covington.

RALPH H. GIBSON, the efficient sheriff of Miami County and a citizen held in high estimation throughout the county, was born in Noble County, Ohio, November 23, 1874. His parents were Charles T. and Aminervi (Reed) Gibson, the former of whom followed the occupation of salesman.

The subject of this sketch was educated in the common schools, and when old enough to begin industrial life, took up railroading, soon after being appointed freight agent. He came to Miami County in 1880 and for some time was in the employ here of the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton Railroad. Then, giving up railroad work, he went on the road as a traveling salesman, in which occupation he continued four years, at the end of that time becoming department recorder of Miami County. He was elected sheriff of the county, on the Republican ticket, in November, 1905, entering upon the duties of the office in the following January. In 1908 he was re-elected without opposition. He has made a very capable official and has won the regard of the voting population without distinction of party.

Sheriff Gibson is well advanced in Free Masonry and is also a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Elks. He married Miss Nellie Deeter, a daughter of Fred Deeter, of Pleasant Hill. Mrs. Gibson was a member of the Christian Church, but since her marriage has become a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Gibson was reared in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but at present does not belong to any. They have many warm friends throughout the county. Their home is in Troy, where they occupy a pleasant and commodious residence.

THE PECKHAM COAL AND ICE COMPANY, a large business enterprise of Miami County, which is carried on both at Piqua and at Troy, under the same name and management, was established at Troy in 1900, and incorporated with the following officers: Frank J. Peckham, president; Charles Peckham, secretary; and David Peckham, treasurer. In both cities large ice plants have been erected and all facilities have been provided for the carrying on of a business of large proportions according to modern methods.

Frank J. Peckham, the president and leading spirit of this important business concern, is yet a young man, born in 1877, at Troy, Ohio, a son of George W. Peckham, of that city. He obtained his education in the schools of District No. 4, Concord Township, and in the Troy High School. His first work was done at Dayton, where he filled a position as bookkeeper for six months, after which he returned to Troy and went into the coal business, later establishing an ice plant and conducting a successful business in both necessary commodities, and in 1900 entering into the present corporation. In October, 1906, Mr. Peckham was married to Miss Florence Hawley, of Troy. They are members of the Baptist Church. Mr. Peckham belongs to the National Association of Engineers.

VAN SHEARS DEATON, M. D., is a prominent member of the medical profession of Miami County, located at Miami City, and is one of the foremost citizens of that locality. Progressive and public spirited, he has always been closely identified with the affairs of the community, and has often been called upon to serve in offices of high public trust. The Doctor was born near Addison, in Jackson Township, Champaign County, Ohio, August 1, 1847, and is a son of Nathan and Sarah (Scoby) Deaton.

George Deaton, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a resident of Virvinia and died in that State. He married Susan Ream, who was born in 1787, and their offspring were William, Andrew, Samuel, George, Nathan, Levi, Mary, Martha and Susan—all deceased but Susan.

Nathan Deaton was joined in marriage with Susan Scroby, a daughter of William Scroby, of Champaign County, and their children were as follows: Van Shears; Lydia A., wife of Jason Cutler, of St. Paul, Kansas; Emory G., who married Ellen Hackett, and was a neighbor to the famous John Brown, in Kansas; Emma D., wife of John McMorran, of St. Paris, Ohio; William Dyke, who married Mary Stafford, of New Carlisle; and Charles, who died in infancy.

Van Shears Deaton became an orphan at the age of nine years. He was educated in the public school at Christiansburg and the Honey Creek school, leaving the latter in 1864 to enter the army. He served with credit until near the close of the Civil War, when he returned to the home farm of Levi Deaton, in Clark County, Ohio. He worked on a farm, and for two years attended school in Lebanon, after which he engaged in teaching for several years, at the same time pursuing the study of medicine under Dr. Jonathan Thatcher, of Alcony. He taught the Hickory Grove School in Bethel Township, Miami County, two terms, and in Elizabeth Township two terms. He was graduated from the Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery in 1873, after a three years' course, and immediately thereafter engaged in practice at Addison, where he continued for a period of four years. He then moved to Miami City, or Alcony Postoffice, where he has been engaged successfully in practice for thirty-one years. He is a thorough student and has kept abreast the rapid advancement made in the science of medicine, and has met with good results in the treatment of the many complicated cases which have come under his care during his long practice here. Although his profession has always been first and foremost with him, he has given much of his time to public service. He was coroner of Miami County two years; justice of the peace six years; a member of the Board of Education under the old law for sixteen years; and a member of the State Legislature two terms, from 1894 until 1898, serving during his second term as chairman of the Committee on Common Schools. He has been a member of the Board of Education four years under the new law, and is serving his second term as president of that body. He is now president of the Board of Pension Examiners, and formerly was a member of that board for four years during the administration of President Harrison. In addition to his property in Miami City, Dr. Deaton is the owner of a fine farm of 115 acres in Pike Township, Clark County, farmed by his son, Ross.

Van Shears Deaton was married March 6, 1873, to Miss Laura E. Shidaker, daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Shidaker, of Elizabeth Township, and they have two children: C. Ross, who married Loretta Moses, daughter of the late Samuel Moses, of Champaign County, by whom he has a son, Cecil Aquila, named in honor of Gen. Aquila Wiley, of Wayne County; and Dr. Ernest Heber Deaton, who married Mayme Deaton, daughter of Thomas Jefferson Deaton, of St. Louis, and is engaged in practice in that city. Fraternally the subject of this record is a member of Casstown Lodge, I. O. O. F., and has passed through all the chairs of that lodge. He also is a member of Coleman Post, G. A. R., at Troy. In politics he is unswerving in his support of Republican principles. Dr. and Mrs. Deaton attend the McKendree Methodist Episcopal Church of Elizabeth Township.

JOHN McCLAIN, proprietor of the U. S. Auction Syndicate, doing business as a department store at Troy and handling almost every commodity, has been a resident of this city for the past twenty-two years. He was born in 1858, at Alliance, Ohio, where he was reared and educated. Mr. McClain started into business as a traveling salesman and for ten years he represented commercial firms on the road, but after he came to Troy, in 1887, he embarked in business for himself, establishing here the U. S. Auction Syndicate and investing in other enterprises. He is a director in the First National Bank and is treasurer of the Troy Telephone Company and has stock in other business houses. He is a very active and public-spirited citizen and is serving as president of the Board of Public Service, this being his fourth year, and has also been a useful member of the City Council. Mr. McClain married Miss Lois Liddell, of Cleveland, Ohio, and they have five sons and one daughter: John W., of Detroit; William H., a high school student; Harold; Carroll; and Howard and Hellen, twins. Mr. McClain is a member of the Catholic Church and, fraternally, he is an Elk.

JOHN McCANDLISS, who has always lived in Miami County, Ohio, is one of the progressive citizens and farmers of Staunton Township, where he has 140 acres of good land, and is at the present time one of the trustees of the township. He was born in Washington Township, Miami County, May 4, 1849, and is a son of James and Mary (Abbott) McCandliss, and a grandson of James McCandliss, Sr.

James McCandliss, Sr., was born in Pennsylvania, and after his marriage came to Miami County, Ohio, where he followed his trade as a carpenter. After a time he purchased a farm southwest of Piqua, in this county, where he resided at the time of his death. He and his wife were parents of the following children: John, James, Amos, William, Mary, Sarah, Rebecca, Nancy and Ann. All are now deceased but the last named, who is the wife of David Mitchell.

James McCandliss, father of the subject of this record, was born in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, and was a young man when he accompanied his parents in wagons across the country to Miami County, Ohio. He was a miller by trade, and for a time was identified with the mills of a Mr. Allen and Dye & Culberson. He later conducted the Sheets mill for a period of thirty years, and continued until his death in 1899, at the age of seventy-two years. He married Mary Abbott, who was born in Lost Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is now living at an advanced age. The following were the issue of their union: John; James; Nancy, widow of Charles Rosser; Mella, wife of George Wolfe; Isaac; Charles; May Bell, wife of Albert Carnes; and Crosier.

John McCandliss spent his youth on the farm, and being the eldest, had to go to work when young. His schooling was very limited, but he is a man of fair education, almost wholly self-acquired. At the age of ten years he went to live with Isaac Sheets in Elizabeth Township, and after growing up, conducted the latter's farming operations, remaining with him in all about forty years. In 1903 he purchased his present farm in Staunton Township of B. F. Smith, and replaced all the old buildings with new and modern structures. He conducted a dairy in years past, but now devotes his time to general farming. He has a fine home and a well improved and fertile farm.

In 1867 Mr. McCandliss was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Heiner, who died February 25, 1905, leaving a daughter, Bertha, who is the wife of Clinton Trucksis and lives near Youngstown, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Trucksis have six children—Melvin, Mary, John, Raymond, Harry and Margaret. Fraternally the subject of this sketch is a member of Casstown Lodge, No. 426, I. O. O. F. He is a Democrat in politics, and for many years served as supervisor in Elizabeth and Staunton Townships. In 1908 he was elected trustee of the latter. In 1909 Mr. McCandliss, accompanied by Mr. Lincoln Cyrus, made an extended and pleasant trip to Texas.

JESSE SHILLING, superintendent of the engineering and electrical works in connection with lighting and heating the Miami County Court House at Troy and the jail and infirmary, having charge of the county electrical plant, was born at Troy, in 1857, and is a son of the late Jesse Shilling, who was a pioneer in Miami County.

Jesse Shilling, Jr., was reared and educated at Troy, where he went to the high school, after which he entered the Troy Fire Department, where he remained for ten years and operated one of the engines. He then left home and went as far south as Texas, and during the eight months of his stay there acted as a fireman on the Texas & Pacific Railroad, and later also ran an engine. After he returned to Troy he was in the employ of the manufacturing firm of Child's Catarrh Specific, where he continued for about eight years. In 1887 he became connected with his present work, of which he is now the capable superintendent.

In 1879 Mr. Shilling was married to Miss Dora Hickerson, who was born and reared in Troy and is a daughter of James Hickerson, who was one of the pioneer furniture dealers in this place. Mr. and Mrs. Shilling have two children: Harvey, who is a student in the Ohio State University; and Leah, who resides at home. Mr. Shilling and wife are members of the Baptist Church. He is a Knight of Pythias and is ex-president of the local lodge of the National Association of Stationary Engineers.

WILLIAM W. WHITMER, one of Covington's representative business men, conducting a furniture store and undertaking business, was born at Covington, Ohio, January 4, 1854, and is a son of John and Sarah (Lenhart) Whitmer.

John Whitmer was born, reared and married in Pennsylvania. In 1840 he settled at Pleasant Hill, Ohio, where he established a general store, conducting it for a time and then selling out in order to locate at Covington. Here he entered into partnership with John Mikesell and Col. J. C. Ullery and conducted a general store until 1860, when he returned to Pleasant Hill, and until he retired in 1873, was interested in a general store at that point. He lived into advanced age, his death taking place January 2, 1907, when he had almost reached his ninety-fifth birthday. He married Sarah Lenhart, who died December 1, 1905, aged eighty-six years. They had eleven children.

William W. Whitmer was reared at Pleasant Hill. In 1886 he first engaged in the undertaking business, and in partnership with his brother-in-law, J. A. Yount, bought out Fred Deeter, at Pleasant Hill. The partners continued together for four years in that line and then traded for a tract of land in Mercer County, Ohio, which they later sold. In June, 1891, he embarked in the undertaking business at Covington, and in 1902 added furniture dealing, having a partner in his nephew, R. R. Whitmer, although the business style continues Whitmer Bros. The firm carries a fine line of furniture, and for its undertaking business has every necessary equipment.

Mr. Whitmer married Miss Flora A. Shephard, a daughter of David C. Shephard, of Darke County, Ohio, and they have four children, namely: Cora B., who married W. B. Lyle; Gertrude, who carries on a millinery business at Covington; J. D., who is a graduate of the Ohio State University at Columbus and is in business in Oregon; and Margaret, who resides at home. Mr. Whitmer and family are members of the Christian Church, in which he is a deacon. He is one of the active members of this body and for ten years served as church clerk. His fraternal connections include the Masons, both branches of the Odd Fellows, and the Red Men.

GEORGE WASHING, who is engaged in the grocery business at Piqua, was born in 1872, at Piqua, Ohio, and is a son of George Washing, a native of Germany, who died at Piqua in 1874.

George Washing, the younger, grew to manhood in his native city and was educated in her excellent schools. Early in life he began to take care of himself, and engaged in clerking in grocery stores, which naturally led him into embarking in the business for himself. In 1900 he opened his own store and now has an excellent line of trade, having won the confidence and esteem of the public through his honesty and courtesy while working for others. He also handles feed of all kinds and has an up-to-date meat market, carrying a a full line of fresh and salt meats.

In 1898 Mr. Washing was married to Miss Margaret Weishardt, and they have four children, Frances, George, Margaret and Ray. Mr. Washing and wife are members of the German Methodist Episcopal Church at Piqua, he belonging to the official board. He is an active and useful member of the Retail Business Men's Association.

JOHN LAMKA, general farmer and respected citizen of Elizabeth Township, Miami County, resides on his valuable property, which consists of fifty-five acres of land, situated in Section 20 and lying along the lower Troy and Springfield Turnpike Road. He was born in Germany, June 20, 1843, and is a son of William and Sophia (Huptner) Lamka. The parents of Mr. Lamka never came to America, and only two of their family of fourteen children have made their homes in the United States. The father of Mr. Lamka died in Germany in 1881.

When John Lamka came to this country, in 1882, he was accompanied by his wife and children. He settled first near Pleasant Hill, Miami County, Ohio, and worked by the day at farm labor, and then rented a farm in Newton Township from Dr. Keister. He rented his second farm from Levi Barnett, in Elizabeth Township, and after living there for eight years purchased the farm he now owns, on which he has lived since 1899. He bought forty acres of it from Mrs. Brier and fifteen acres from the Harter estate. The purchase of this farm was the result of years of industry and good management. He devotes all of his land to grain, except six acres, on which he grows tobacco. The only farm building he had to put up was his tobacco shed. He is a hard worker and takes a great deal of pride in keeping up the appearance of his farm and in making every part of it a paying proposition.

In Germany Mr. Lamka was married to Marie Prolo, a daughter of Joseph H. and Louisa (Holtz) Prolo, and they have four children, all of whom have domestic ties of their own. William married Anna Lamka, a daughter of Henry Lamka, and they have four children, Edward, Carl, Herman and Charles. John married Marie Knoll, a daughter of Lawrence Knoll, and they have one child, Marie. Fred married Mary Smith, a daughter of Joseph Smith, and when she died she left two children, Leo and Grace. Charles married Maude Drury, a daughter of James Drury. Mr. Lamka and family are members of the German Lutheran Church at Troy. With his sons, Mr. Lamka votes with the Democratic party.

ALBERT KINDER, general farmer and tobacco grower, owns eighty acres of farm land in Lost Creek Township, Miami County, which lies on the Addison and Casstown Turnpike and on the Springfield and and Troy Electric Railroad, about six miles west of the latter city. Mr. Kinder was born on a farm in Warren County, Ohio, April 3, 1848, and is a son of John and Sarah (Maxwell) Kinder, the former of whom was born in Pennsylvania and the latter in Ohio. He is a grandson of Abraham Kinder, who settled in Warren

County, Ohio, in 1800, and the farm is still in the Kinder name, belonging to a brother of Albert, named John.

Albert Kinder was left an orphan in boyhood, losing his mother when he was only five years old, and his father two years later. He was reared in Warren County and trained to be a farmer. He moved from there in February, 1872, and settled on a rented farm in Staunton Township, Miami County, and in 1886 he came to his present place, finding it in great need of improvement. He erected his residence, his substantial barns and his commodious tobacco sheds and now has a very valuable and desirable property. He gives considerable attention to producing tobacco.

In January, 1878, Mr. Kinder was married, in Miami County, to Miss Lettie Rusk, who died October 12, 1907. She was a daughter of William Rusk. Five children were born to this union, namely: William, who graduated in civil engineering in the Ohio Normal University, at Ada, in 1904, and is engaged in professional work in Montana; Effie; Albert, who is filling a position as bookkeeper in a business house in Texas; and John and Mary. Mr. Kinder takes no very active part in politics, although he is ever ready to perform every duty of good citizenship.

O. W. RICHARDSON, one of the leading contractors and builders of Piqua, Ohio, has been a resident of this city since July, 1889, and has erected some of the prominent buildings here. Mr. Richardson was born in Darke County, Ohio, August 26, 1874, and there he attended the public schools. After coming to Piqua, in 1889, he attended Piqua High School one term. Upon leaving that institution he learned the trade of a carpenter, serving a thorough apprenticeship, and followed that occupation continuously until 1897. He then engaged in general contracting in partnership with his father, but during the past seven years he has conducted operations alone. He has erected many fine buildings, among which may be mentioned that of Piqua Central Fire Department, the Boal Flats and the United Brethren Church. He added the third story to the Glencoe Hotel and remodeled the remainder of the building. He has taken an active part in political affairs, being a Republican, and has served as central committeeman and as delegate to congressional and county conventions.

June 20, 1900, Mr. Richardson was united in marriage with Miss Electa B. Davis, of Piqua. Both are members of the Church of Christ and are enthusiastic church workers. He has been superintendent of the Sunday School for seven years, and has seen its growth from ninety scholars, with an average attendance of sixty, to an enrollment of 240, with an average attendance of 150. Mrs. Richardson also has been an active Sunday School worker and teacher, and has seen many of her class of infants grow to be useful members of the church congregation. Mr. Richardson is a member of Warren Lodge, No. 24, F. & A. M., of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and also of the Piqua Club.

S. M. ALLISON, secretary, treasurer and general manager of the Cron-Kills Company, manufacturers of wardrobes and ladies' desks, a very large business enterprise of Piqua, with the largest and best equipped plant of its kind in this section of the State, was born in 1863, in Preble County, Ohio.

Mr. Allison has been a resident of Piqua since he was thirteen years of age, and received a public school education here. He was nineteen years old when he entered the business with which he has been identified ever since. The Cron-Kills Company was established in 1881, by A. J. Cron, R. B. Kills, Samuel Zollinger and Henry Flesh, as Cron, Kills & Co., which style was continued until 1904, when the business was incorporated with a capital stock of $250,000, and the present style adopted. The officers are: Henry Flesh, president; Samuel Zollinger, vice-president; S. M. Allison, secretary, treasurer and general manager; and W. R. Bamber, superintendent. The plant includes five large buildings, covering twenty-five acres of floor space, and employment is given to 200 men. Goods are shipped all over the United States and to some foreign countries. Prosperous conditions exist and the business is on such a firm basis that no changes in the tariff system of the country would cause any reduction in its output. Not only is a large amount of capital behind it, but its officers are men of personal as well as financial stability.

In 1892 Mr. Allison was married to Miss Frances Culbertson, of Piqua, and they occupy one of the fine homes of this beautiful city. Mr. Allison is an active and useful citizen and for a number of years served with public efficiency in the city council. He is a Mason of advanced degree and for a quarter of a century has been identified with the Odd Fellows. Other organizations in which he has membership are the United Commercial Travelers and the Piqua Club.

JAMES DRURY, who devotes his farm of twelve and one-fourth acres to growing grain and tobacco and raising hogs for market, is a well known citizen of Elizabeth Township, Miami County, having resided on his present place for a number of years. He was born October 8, 1849, in Perry County, Ohio, and is a son of Eli Harrison and Mary Ann (Stourtts) Drury.

The first member of the Drury family to establish himself in Miami County was John Drury, the grandfather, who came from Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, locating first at Columbus, but later opened up a boarding house in Miami City, where he subsequently died. He married Anna Pinkerton, who also died at Miami City, and both of them were buried in the McKendree Cemetery. They had the following children: James, Eli H., Harman, Elizabeth, Eliza Ann and Susanna.

Eli Harrison Drury is a retired farmer and makes his home with his son, George G. Drury. In his earlier years he was a dry goods merchant and later engaged in agricultural pursuits. He married Mary Ann Stourtts, a daughter of John Stourtts, and they had the following children: James; John, deceased; Alice Ann, who was married (first) to Joseph McGraft, and (second) to James Snyder; Thomas Jefferson; George Grant; and Mary Effie, who married William Beck. The mother of this family is deceased.

James Drury obtained his education in a country school not far from Miami City and then went to work on the farm and has followed farming ever since. After his marriage he rented a number of farms in

Miami County, living on each one as long as he found it profitable. For fifteen years before coming to his present farm he operated the Shellenbarger farm in Bethel Township. All the buildings now standing on his place he either remodeled or entirely constructed. He has made many improvements, one being the setting out of a fine orchard of some forty trees. Mr. Drury has had so long an experience as a farmer that all methods are known to him and his judgment enables him to get more substantial returns from his small farm than do many on much larger acreage. His farm lies on the McNeal Turnpike, southeast of Troy.

On October 3, 1871, Mr. Drury was married to Miss Margaret Nothstine, a daughter of William H. and Mira (Swager) Nothstine, and they have had eleven children born to them, namely: Charles E.; Mary A., who is now deceased; Nora Viola, who married John Williamson, and has had four children—Ruth, Andrew, Minnie and Edna, deceased; Lydia Jane, who married Oscar J. Bowers, and has two children, Ralph M. and Carl F. (they live near Christianburg); William H.; Lulu, now deceased; John J., who is a student in the class of 1909 in a commercial college at Dayton; Bessie Lavina, who married Firman C. Jenkins, of Bethel Township, and has one child, Goldie Leona; Amanda May, who married Frank Zenz, and has two children, Carl E. and Mabel M.; Maude Effie, who married Carl M. Lamka, and Harry, who died in infancy.

Mr. Drury, like his father, is a stanch Republican. He has always taken a good citizen's interest in public matters and at different times has served as school director.

S. J. RUDY, proprietor of the Farmers' Complete Elevator, has been established in business at Covington, Ohio, for some ten years and is one of the representative citizens. Mr. Rudy was born in Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, April 18, 1868, and is a son of William and Mary (Shaffer) Rudy.

Mr. Rudy was reared on a farm and followed agricultural pursuits until he embarked in the elevator business, the family haivng been farmers away back to his grandfather, Samuel Rudy, who came in early manhood to Miami County and settled first in Newberry and later in Newton Township. William Rudy was a life-long resident of Miami County and during the whole of his active life engaged in farming, retiring to Covington but shortly before his death, which occurred on October 8, 1908. His widow still survives. About 1899, Mr. Rudy came to Covington and began his elevator business, in the meanwhile purchasing his farm of 132 acres, in Newton Township, which he still retains. He met with misfortune after two years in Covington, his elevator near the hotel burning down, but he showed his business enterprise by building his present one, known as the Farmers' Complete Elevator, in 1901. He does a very satisfactory business and is one of the city's substantial business men.

Mr. Rudy married Miss Dora Kendell, a daughter of Ezekiel Kendell, and they have had twelve children, the survivors being Nellie, Ethel, William, James, Albert, Alvie and Alice (twins), and Dora. Those who died were Glenna, Bessie, Ezekiel, a twin of William, and an infant. Mr. Rudy and wife are members of the Brethren Church.

AUGUST S. CLOUSE, a representative business man of Piqua, who is teller of the Piqua National Bank and secretary of the Stuart & Brown Underwear Company, was born in this city in 1876, and is a son of Joseph Clouse, a native of Somerset, Ohio, who for years was identified with the man- and also the substantial barns near the old ufacturing interests of Piqua.

August S. Clouse was reared and educated in his native city, graduating from the Piqua High School in 1894. He immediately went to work in the Citizen's National Bank, where he continued for seven years. In December, 1901, he came to the Piqua National Bank in the capacity of bookkeeper, afterward being made teller, and remains associated with this financial institution. He has other business interests and an important one is his official connection with the Stuart & Brown Underwear Company.

Mr. Clouse is one of Piqua's most active and earnest citizens. He is serving as clerk of the Board of Public Safety and has been tireless in his efforts to promote the general welfare. In politics he is a leading Republican of this section, being treasurer of the Republican Central Committee, of Miami County, and a member of the County Central Committee from the Third Ward of Piqua. He is a consistent member of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church. Fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Columbus and is a past grand knight of that order. Socially he is identified with the Piqua Club.

E. B. PENROD, general farmer and dairyman, residing on his excellent farm of 107½ acres, which is situated one and one-half miles north of Piqua, in Spring Creek Township, was born in Shelby County, Ohio, not far from Newport, August 22, 1856, and is a son of Levi and Martha (Irwin) Penrod, and a grandson of Samuel Penrod.

Samuel Penrod was a pioneer settler and preacher in Shelby County. He was born in Pennsylvania, of German ancestry, and during the whole of his mature life he engaged in farming and in serving as a minister in the Christian Church, and in the latter capacity he visited different points in the county and was a revered and beloved man. The old church near Newport that he was instrumental in building still stands. His wife was a native of New Jersey. They had six children, namely: Jacob and Mary Jane, both deceased; Phebe Ann; Levi; and William, who died from starvation and inhuman treatment while held a prisoner of war at Andersonville, during the Civil War. Samuel Penrod died in Shelby County, March 17, 1879, his wife having passed away June 22, 1864.

Levi Penrod, father of E. B., was born in Shelby County, Ohio, in the old log house that was built by his father, and in which his own sons were also born. He owned an adjoining farm to the homestead and there his death occurred. He married Martha Irwin and they had seven children born to them, as follows: E. B.; Rachel Anna, who died when aged nine months; James S.; Emma Jane, who married James Caldwell and lives in Shelby County; Lucy Ellen, who married William Peters and lives at Piqua, Ohio; Etta, who married Levi Border, lives in Shelby County; Eliza, married, who lives at

MR. AND MRS. E. B. PENROD

Cleveland; and Justice, who works the home farm in Shelby County.

E. B. Penrod obtained his education in the schools of Shelby County and remained at home with his father until his marriage, after which he moved to Miami County and rented land until April 11, 1904, when he settled on his present farm. He here carries on a general agricultural line and gives considerable attention to the milk industry, operating a route to Piqua.

Mr. Penrod was married (first) April 29, 1877, to Miss Rosella Kuhn, who died October 20, 1888, a daughter of Gabriel Kuhn. She was survived by three children: Maud, Myrtle and William Arthur. Maud married Charles Rummel and they live in Shelby County and have two children—Walter and Opal. Myrtle adopted the noble profession of trained nurse and resides at Brooklyn, New York. William Arthur assists his father at home. Mr. Penrod was married (second) August 22, 1890, to Miss Sarah Ellen Furman, who was born July 10, 1856, a daughter of William and Tacy (Stoker) Furman, who came from the State of New York to Shelby County and went from there to Iowa, where he was accidentally killed while operating a saw-mill, when Mrs. Penrod was only nine months old. His widow returned to Ohio, settling at Houston, later removing to Piqua, Miami County, where she died January 20, 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Furman had six children, all of whom survive. Mr. and Mrs. Penrod have two children: Elva and Opal, both attending school. In politics Mr. Penrod is a Republican, all members of the family being of that political faith. With his family he belongs to the Christian Church.

JESSE FUNDERBURG, M. D., physician and surgeon, maintaining his summer office at No. 212 West High Street, Piqua, Ohio, and a winter office in Florida, is one of the best known specialists in the diseases of women, in this section of the state. He was born in Greene County, Ohio, in 1862.

Dr. Funderburg attended the Greene County public schools and Antioch College and then entered Columbus Medical College, where he was graduated March 4, 1886. He practiced for a short time at Houston and at Fletcher and then came to Piqua. On December 9, 1893, he was commissioned county coroner by Governor McKinley and served in this office for four years. When the board of pension examiners was reorganized, Dr. Funderburg was appointed a member and during the eight years that he served on this board he gained the appreciation and esteem of the old soldiers, to whose interests he gave close and careful attention. For the past four years Dr. Funderburg has spent his winters as a practitioner in Florida, where his medical and surgical skill are valued as they are at Piqua. He keeps fully abreast of the times, taking post-graduate work at intervals in the great colleges of Columbus and Chicago, and closely investigating for himself many of the new scientific theories of his profession. He is a valued member of the Miami and Shelby County Medical Society, the Ohio State Medical Society and the International Congress of Medicine.

Dr. Funderburg was married (first) May 20, 1886, to Miss Ella Doup, of Fletcher, who died May 22, 1900, leaving two children, William Roscoe and Cloyd. He was married (second) to Miss Lillian Myrthe Tyson, of Fletcher, Ohio. Dr. Funderburg is a member of the Odd Fellows, the Knights of the Golden Eagle and the Knights of Pythias of Piqua.

ALBERT KNOOP, a representative of one of the oldest and most substantial families of Miami County, owns 216 acres of land in one body, fifty-five of which lies in Elizabeth Township and the remainder in Lost Creek Township. Mr. Knoop was born on this farm, in December, 1849, and is a son of Daniel H. and Cassie (Jackson) Knoop.

Daniel Knoop was born in Pennsylvania and was a son of Jacob Knoop, the latter of whom died in that state. Daniel came to Ohio prior to his marriage, in company with his mother, and they settled on the farm which is now owned by Albert Knoop. The mother of the latter was born on the old Jackson farm in Elizabeth Township, one which has been in the family for over 100 years and on which the Jacksons celebrated recently a centennial anniversary. Daniel and Cassie Knoop had five children, namely: Henry, residing at Casstown; Josiah, who died in 1904; George, who died in 1862; William, who died in 1901; and Albert.

Albert Knoop has spent his whole life on the old home farm, which is endeared to him as no other place ever could be. He has taken pleasure in developing the different resources of the property and in adding to its comforts and conveniences. In 1902 he erected his large frame residence, standing in the limits of Casstown, house about one-eighth of a mile south of Casstown. He engages in general farming and stockraising.

On February 18, 1880, Mr. Knoop was married to Miss Mary Jane Stewart, a daughter of William Stewart, and they have had four children, namely: Wilbur, who died aged four years; and Walter, Lauren and Albert K.

D. C. MEEKS, president of the School Board of Lost Creek Township, is a prominent farmer and the owner of eighty-two acres of land which has been in the family name since title was acquired from the Government in pioneer days. He was born in this township January 13, 1851, and is a son of David and Eliza (Knight) Meek, his father not using an "s" in the spelling of his name. Bazel Meeks, the grandfather, was born and reared in Pennsylvania and came to Ohio in the pioneer days. He acquired of the Government a large tract of land in Miami County, some 800 or 900 acres in all, for which he paid $1.25 per acre. He was blind during the last forty years of his life, and died at the home of his son, David, at the age of ninety years.

David Meek was born near New Lancaster, Ohio, and came with his father to Miami County, when quite young. He lived at home until his marriage, then purchased 213 acres in Lost Creek Township, where they began housekeeping. He finally had 427 acres in one block, a tract of 186 acres north of Addison, and a quarter section of coal land in Perry County, Ohio. The last nine years of his life were saddened by the same affliction which had affected his father, that of blindness, and his death occurred in a little house which the subject of this sketch built for him on the home farm. He died January 5, 1896, aged eighty-nine years, and his widow survived him about fifteen months, dying at the age of eighty-five years. She was Eliza Knight in maiden life and was born on what is known as the Theodore Rogers farm in Lost Creek Township. Her father, David Knight, was one of the pioneers of this community. Mr. and Mrs. Meek became parents of the following children: Martha, Isaac, Louisa, and Diana, all deceased; Watson; Johnson K., who was drowned near Troy, at the age of forty-seven years; Emma, wife of R. D. Evans of Columbus, Ohio; David Corbly, whose name heads this record; Washington Riley of Columbus, Ohio; and Louisa. Isaac, Martha and Watson died of diphtheria about four days apart.

David C. Meeks attended the school in the home district, which was badly crowded with its eighty pupils. Later the family moved to Troy in order to afford the children better educational advantages, and Diana Meeks was one of the four who formed the first graduating class of the Troy High School. David C. also attended the high school, and later the Nelson Business College at Cincinnati, Ohio. He continued to live with his parents until his marriage, then for a period of ten years rented and farmed land. Then he purchased of his father 213 acres, on time payments, and as the tract was heavily timbered it was necessary to make a clearing before he could erect a home. He sold off 130 acres, of which he had cleared all but sixteen acres. He has always followed general farming and has been very successful; he is progressive and public spirited, and by employing modern and approved methods in his work has met with exceptional results. In politics, he is a Republican and for fifteen years served as township trustee. He has been president of the school board for the past five years.

October 10, 1875, Mr. Meeks was united in marriage with Miss Lydia McGalliard, a daughter of Isaac and Mercy (Fuller) McGalliard, and their children are as follows: Cora F., who died at three years; Earl A., who married Orma Haulman and has a son, Lloyd; Venna Pearl, wife of H. A. Smith, by whom she has a daughter, Madge Aileen; Riley O., a landscape gardener at Columbus; Forrest D.; and Ruby C. Religiously, the family belongs to the Baptist Church.

CONRAD WILLIAM BREIDENBACH, a prosperous business man and well known citizen of Piqua, Ohio, is a practical piano-forte, pipe and reed organ builder, which business he has followed in that city continuously since his removal there, September 3, 1877.

Mr. Breidenbach was born in Dayton, Ohio, in 1853, and was reared and educated in that city. In early life he worked at carriage making for a time, then for three years was employed in an organ factory. In 1877 he came to Piqua and began work as a practical piano-forte, pipe and reed organ builder, also tuning and repairing instruments. He also makes and remodels violins to order, and has been highly successful in all branches of his business. He has real estate interests in Dayton, where he is also stockholder in a bank.

July 6, 1880, Mr. Breidenbach was united in marriage with Miss Louise Bertling, who died in 1883 and left a daughter, Helen Louise. In 1891 he formed a second union at Philadelphia with Miss Eliza C. Steller and they have a son, Warren C., who is a student in Piqua High School. Fraternally Mr. Breidenbach is a Mason, belonging to the Blue Lodge and Chapter; also a member of the Order of Elks; the Knights of Pythias, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

C. W. NETTLESHIP, a substantial business man and representative citizen of Piqua, Ohio, conducts a grocery at No. 827 West North Street, and has been engaged in business in this city since May 1, 1902. Mr. Nettleship was born in Shelby County, Ohio, in 1865, and was there reared to maturity and received his training in the grocery business, with which he has always been identified. He remained in his native county until 1894, then moved to Dayton, where he successfully conducted a store until 1902. On May 1st of that year, he moved to Piqua and established the store which he has since conducted. He is a man of tireless energy and good business judgment and his progress in the business world has been steady. He erected the store building occupied by his grocery on West North Street, and is also the owner of two other good buildings which he erected.

Mr. Nettleship was married May 1, 1902, to Miss Bertha Schemmell, who was born in Newark, New Jersey, and came west to Piqua with her parents when quite young. Religiously, she is a member of St. Paul's church. Mr. Nettleship is a man of wide acquaintance and is most highly esteemed by his fellow citizens.

JOHN W. LYLE, one of the representative business men of Covington, who has been engaged in the grocery line here for over twenty-two years, was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, October 21, 1857, and is a son of Robert and Hester (Ford) Lyle.

Mr. Lyle was reared on his father's farm and was educated in the country schools. When he was eighteen years of age, his parents moved to Logan County and he accompanied them and shortly afterward accepted a position as clerk in a general store at Belle Center, where he remained for five years. In 1885, deciding to invest his capital of $400, in business for himself, he came to Covington and purchased a small store, and from that time until the present, with the exception of eight months, he has been engaged in business here. He bought a farm of 120 acres near Troy, in Concord Township, and occupied it for eight months and then returned to Covington and bought back his old store. February 6, 1902, Mr. Lyle bought Mr. Ratcliff's interest in the firm of Kreighbaum & Ratcliff, the firm becoming J. W. Lyle & Co. The following June this firm sold out to Everleigh & Utter. On September 2d of the same year Mr. Z. L. Ramsey and Mr. Lyle purchased the business of Everleigh & Utter, the firm being known as Lyle & Ramsey. This firm continued until January 1, 1905, when Mr. Lyle became sole owner and he now conducts the business under the name of J. W. Lyle. He is doing a highly satisfactory business, his long experience in this line enabling him to note the details which are necessary for success. He carries a large and complete stock of staple and fancy groceries and among his customers may be found those who have been such for years.

Mr. Lyle was married at Belle Center, Logan County, to Miss Emma Pearson, a daughter of William Pearson, and they have one son, W. Boyd, who assists his father in the store. He married Miss Cora Whitmer. Mr. Lyle is a member of the Knights of Pythias. He is not active as a politician, but he is a good citizen and takes an interest in the public matters which concern the welfare of Covington. Although he does not occupy his farm, he still retains possession of it.

W. H. FRANCIS, one of Troy's representative business men and president of the Francis & Clemm Company, dealers in lumber, has here been identified with this line of trade for the past nineteen years. He was born in 1848, in Butler County, Ohio.

The early life of Mr. Francis was passed on a farm and his education was obtained in Butler County, with two years at the National Normal, where he taught school at Lebanon, Ohio, for some five years. In 1876 he embarked in a lumber business at Arcanum, in Darke County, where he continued until 1889, when he came to Troy. He started into business in this city under the style of W. H. Francis & Co., which later became Francis & Clemm, and the latter firm was succeeded by The Francis & Clemm Company, with location on South Walnut Street, on the corner of Race. The range of his activities is not confined to the business over which he presides here, he being interested also in lumber enterprises in other places and he is also one of the board of directors of the Troy National Bank.

In 1876 Mr. Francis was married to Miss Ella Gifford, of Preble County, Ohio, and they have two children; Jesse B., who is engaged in the practice of medicine in Chicago; and Opal C., who is a member of the graduating class of 1909, at Oberlin College. Mr. and Mrs. Francis are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, he belonging to its official board.

ADAM M. STROCK, V. S., who is recognized as one of the leading veterinary surgeons in Western Ohio, has been a resident of Troy for the past sixteen years, but was born in Clark County, Ohio, in 1850.

Dr. Strock was reared on the home farm near Christiansburg and obtained his education in the common schools, at Lincoln Hill Academy, and at New Carlisle, and later received his diploma from the Ohio State University at Columbus, when thirty years of age. He then purchased the farm of James Kincade, situated one mile east of Casstown, in Miami County, and resided there until the spring of 1893, when he gave up farming and came to Troy to engage in the practice of his profession. He still owns his farming land and keeps things moving there, but for the past twenty years his greatest interest has been in the line of professional work. In this connection he is known all through the western part of the state.

Dr. Storck was married (first) to Miss Rosetta Wrigley, of Elizabeth Township, and six children were born to this union, namely: Clara; Lillie, who is the wife of John Bates, of Dayton, Ohio; Minnie, who is the wife of James Kingham, of Casstown, now a resident of Indianapolis, Indiana; Nellie, who is the wife of Edward Lauber, of Troy; Glenn, who is engaged in business at Troy; and Anna, who resides at home. Dr. Strock was married (second) to Mrs. Nellie Beedle, of Greenville, Darke County, Ohio. For forty years

Dr. Strock has been a member of the Christian Church. He is an Odd Fellow and has membership in the lodge at Christiansburg, Champaign County, Ohio.

LOUIS O. SHILLING, secretary of The People's Building and Savings Association Company at Troy, Ohio, is a native of this city and son of the late David Shilling, one of Troy's leading citizens for many years.

David Shilling was born September 16, 1814, in Frederick County, Maryland, and when fourteen years of age went from there to Columbus, Ohio, where he lived until his marriage to Miss Mary Waite in 1836. Shortly after his marriage he moved to Troy, and formed a partnership in the foundry and plow business near the canal on West Main Street with the Rev. Richard Brandriff, a Wesleyan Methodist minister. Afterwards the foundry was moved to the extreme end of the then West Main Street, and a partnership formed under the name of Shilling Brothers, and later in life David Shilling succeeded to the entire interest of the business. He was senior deacon of the First Baptist Church of Troy, Ohio, for over forty years, and up to the time of his death, which occurred August 14, 1888. He was an active citizen and served a number of terms as a member of the City Council, his public spirit at all times being shown in the efforts to increase the city's utilities. It was during this period the mill-race was walled and placed in a sanitary condition to afford a healthy drainage through the town.

Louis O. Shilling was born October 25, 1857. In early youth he attended the country school, then known as District No. 4, in the McClung neighborhood. At the age of fourteen he entered the grammar grades in the Troy schools, and about the same time united with the First Baptist Church under the ministry of Rev. M. H. Worrell. While attending school he was employed at odd times in his father's foundry and machine shop. On leaving the high school he entered the law office of J. A. Davy, where he read law and engaged in the business of abstracting of land titles. He afterwards became associated in business with the law firm of Williams & Gantz, and with Hon. M. K. Gantz when the latter was elected Mayor of Troy, and afterward to the United States Congress.

During this time Mr. Shilling was engaged in literary pursuits, and acted as reporter and writer for several papers in other cities. In the year 1891 Mr. Shilling started a free circulating library at his home in the interest of his Sabbath-school class, which enterprise rapidly developed until many other boys of the town (some now grown to mature manhood) became welcomed beneficiaries to his library, which, at the present writing consists of over 3,000 volumes, and where the boys of the city are still welcome to go each Sunday afternoons and enjoy the treasures there freely given in reading and study. In the year 1892 Mr. Shilling entered the law office in business with Hon. George S. Long, who, at that time was the attorney for The People's Building and Savings Association Company of Troy, and in 1893 Mr. Shilling was elected the secretary of that institution, which at that time, had assets amounting to $66,000, with two hundred or three hundred members. This has expanded into the present capital of over $396,800 and the membership increased to over fifteen hundred people, while there is surplus of over $20,000. Mr. Shilling with the efficient members of the Board of Directors, has been untiring in his efforts to make this organization a model one as well as the largest fiduciary institution of its kind in the county.

WILLIAM J. MEREDITH, who has had a wide and varied experience in business affairs, is a well known resident of Staunton Township and has been a resident of Miami County, Ohio, since 1872. He was born in Lafayette, Indiana, in October, 1843, and is a son of John L. Meredith, a well remembered business man and banker of Troy.

John L. Meredith was born in Warren County, Ohio, and passed his early boyhood there. When sixteen years old he went to the northern part of Indiana to take charge of an Indian station, and in 1840 located in Lafayette, Indiana. He later engaged in the banking business there and became the head of the banking establishment of Barbee, Brown & Company. About the year 1863, he moved to Troy, Ohio, and was instrumental in the reorganization of the old State Bank into the First National Bank of Troy. He was made cashier and served capably in that capacity until his death in 1880, at the age of sixty-one years. He was married in Indiana to a Miss Margaret Carr, who died one year afterward.

William J. Meredith was reared in his native city and attended Hanover College until his junior year, when he left that institution to enter the army. In 1863 he was appointed on the general staff of the commissary department, and served with credit until May, 1865. At the close of the war he engaged in lumbering on the Chippewa River in northern Wisconsin, and later lost everything by fire. Then he engaged in the retail boot and shoe business at Milwaukee, and after a time acted as treasurer for a company for the construction of a railroad in Kentucky. He moved west to Lincoln, Nebraska, and became assistant cashier of the First National Bank, a position he resigned to become secretary of the old Troy Wagon and Spring Works at Troy, Ohio. He was identified with that company a period of twenty-five years, and was one of its largest stockholders. After the death of his father he bought the interests of the other three heirs in the farm in Staunton Township, and for a time had it farmed, but has disposed of most of it to good advantage.

In January, 1873, Mr. Meredith was united in marriage with Miss Louisa Coles, who died in 1905. One son was born to them, namely, John C., who conducts one of the largest music stores in Dayton. Politically, Mr. Meredith is a Republican, and takes a deep interest in the success of the principles of that party.

MELVILLE W. ALEXANDER, residing at No. 216 Chestnut Street, has been a resident of Piqua, Ohio, continuously since March, 1869, and is now living in retirement after many years of business activity. He was born in Dayton, Ohio, in 1845, and is a son of Henry and Catherine (Wise) Alexander.

Henry Alexander was a carpenter by trade and in early life worked at lock building on the canal. After coming to Miami County, he worked at his trade and followed farming until his death, which occurred in the middle eighties. He was a stanch Republican in politics, whilst religiously he was a devout Methodist. His wife was born near Newport, Ohio, and is now living with the subject of this sketch at the ripe old age of eighty-six years.

Mellville W. Alexander was a baby in arms at the time of his parents' removal from Dayton to Miami County in 1845, and here he was reared to maturity. He attended the district schools and worked on a farm until August, 1862, when he enlisted as a member of Company A, 110th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He participated in much hard fighting and was captured at Winchester, Virginia, June 15, 1863. He was then imprisoned at Belle Isle, Richmond, Virginia, until paroled on July 10, 1864. He was honorably discharged in August, 1864, for disability as a result of gunshot wounds received in the battle of Mine Run. He was a very efficient soldier and took part in all of the engagements of his company while in the service, except during the period of his incarceration and disability. His company was accorded the post of honor in the Grand Review at Washington. Upon leaving the army he resumed farming operations and continued for two years after his marriage. Then in the spring of 1869, he moved to Piqua, where for a period of twenty-five years he engaged in the transfer business. At the end of that time he embarked in the grocery business in partnership with his youngest son and continued several years, since which time he has lived a retired life. His three sons have continued the grocery with good results.

December 6, 1866, Mr. Alexander was married to Miss Frances E. Aspinall, who was born at New Lisbon, Ohio, and is a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Brown) Aspinall, natives of England. Mr. and Mrs. Alexander have three sons and one daughter, namely: Elmer E.; Mattie B., wife of C. D. McCoy of Piqua; Walter W.; and John W. Religiously, they are members of the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is a member of the official board. He is an active member of the Mitchell Post, G. A. R., of Piqua.

ISAAC KNICK, a veteran of the Civil War, and a well known retired farmer, owns and resides upon a farm of seventy-seven acres in Staunton Township, Miami County, Ohio, on the eastern line of the township. He was born in Lost Creek Township, Miami County, October 18, 1829, and is a son of William and Rachel (Armstrong) Knick.

William Knick was born at Rock Bridge, Virginia, and after his marriage moved to Miami County, Ohio. His first purchase of land was forty-seven acres in Lost Creek Township, and to this he later added. The property was well improved at the time of its purchase and he continued to reside upon it until his death, although he was practically retired for some years. He was survived by his wife for a number of years. They were parents of the following children: John, William, James, George, Harrison, Thomas, Rebecca, deceased wife of Samuel Cavender; and Isaac. All are now deceased except Thomas and the subject of this record.

Isaac Knick spent his boyhood days on the farm in Lost Creek Township and received his education in the district schools. He was in the state service for a time before going to the front, and in May, 1864, enlisted as a member of Company I, One Hundred and Forty-seventh Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Glass. He served until the close of the war without injury or sickness. Upon his return from the front he resumed farming operations, at which he has since continued, although he is practically retired at the present time, the farm being conducted by his son-in-law, Walter Gray. He purchased his farm from the other heirs of his father's estate, and has a well improved property. He receives a pension of $20 per month from the United States Government.

September 23, 1871, Mr. Knick was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Roselle Kreglow, who was a daughter of George Kreglow. She died in October, 1908, at the age of fifty-nine years. They became parents of the following: George, of Casstown, who married Julia Biser and has a son, Leonard; Glen, of Casstown, who married Lillian Mott; Daisy Dean, wife of John Herbert Colebaugh, of Casstown, by whom she has two children, Harold and Helen; Alice May, wife of Irwin Knick, who lives east of Casstown; Emma, wife of Walter Gray; and Flossie Fern, who died in infancy. Politically, Mr. Knick is a Democrat. He is a member of Coleman Post, G. A. R. of Troy.

GEORGE FAVORITE, the late proprietor of the George Favorite stock farm, which consists of 505½ acres of land in Miami County, 180 acres on which Mr. Favorite lived being situated three and one-half miles northwest of Troy, in Concord Township, 133 acres in Brown Township and the remainder in Concord Township, was one of the most substantial men and progressive farmers and stockraisers of this section of Ohio. Mr. Favorite had the distinction of being the oldest man in Concord Township in point of continued residence, never having lived farther than one mile from his home. He was born in Concord Township, Miami County, Ohio, June 20, 1857, a son of Daniel and Sarah (Eppert) Favorite, and died May 24, 1909, when nearly fifty-two years of age.

Daniel Favorite was born on the site of Tippecanoe City, where his father was an early settler and reared a large family, Daniel being one of the older members. Daniel Favorite married Sarah Eppert, a native of Pennsylvania, who died in 1889, aged sixty-seven years, surviving her husband for twelve years. They had eight children: William, Jonathan and John, all deceased; Henry, Elizabeth, now deceased, who was the wife of Casper Longendelpher; Daniel; George; and Albert, deceased. Daniel Favorite was a self-made man, a hard worker all through his active life. Before moving from Tippecanoe City he owned 100 acres of land and when he died he left 344 acres, which he had already divided with his children. His death was somewhat sudden, occurring at the office of his physician, Dr. Harrison, of Covington, July 9, 1877, at the age of sixty-one years. He was a kind, good man and was respected and esteemed by his family and neighbors.

George Favorite took so much interest in helping his father on the farm that the latter gave him a share in its products from the time he was twelve years old. The father desired the son to go to school but the latter knew he was needed on the farm and took little advantage of his educational opportunities. His first purchase of land was made when he was seventeen years old, when he paid his brother John the sum of $5,500 for eighty acres of the farm on which he afterwards resided, adding more land as he had capital for investment. The George Favorite stock farm is one of the best located and best kept in all this section. Mr. Favorite never had a school education but he was a remarkably well informed man and possessed great business qualities. He traveled over the country when he wanted stock, purchasing at Chicago and other cattle marts. He made his own improvements on his lands, including tiling, fencing and buildings. When he took charge of his home farm he found the land poor and requiring much attention, producing as its best crop forty bushels of corn to the acre, which yield he increased to about ninety bushels. He carried on all his business dealings in a practical way, making use of the best machinery, and adopting many modern methods, the result being that he was more than usually successful.

In December, 1870, Mr. Favorite was married to Miss Sarah Graham, a daughter of James Graham, and they became the parents of three children: Bert, who married Nora Wilhelm, and has one son, Leonard; Emory, who resides at home and operates the farm; and Laura. Mr. Favorite has given his children many advantages and they are all representative young people of the neighborhood. Mr. Favorite voted with the Republican party but never took any great interest in politics. His death, above recorded, deprived the township of one of its most industrious and worthy citizens.

O. L. HARTLE, manager of the Covington Lumber Company of Covington, Ohio, an important business combination dealing in lumber, coal, oils, paints and cement, is one of the progressive and enterprising citizens of this place. He was born on a farm in Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio, in 1872, and is a son of James and Catherine (Lehman) Hartle.

Owing to the death of his father when the subject of this sketch was but twelve years of age, the latter was very early left to provide for his own necessities and to make his own choice of a business career and his preparation for it. To secure a comprehensive education was his first ambition and in 1893 he graduated from the Covington High School and then entered Juniate College at Huntington, Pennsylvania, where he was graduated in 1895. In the meanwhile he had taught school and also engaged for a time in a dry goods and grocery business at Bradford. Mr. Hartle came to Covington to engage in the lumber business in connection with Joseph Murphy, February 17, 1901, the yards being at the location on Piqua Avenue now utilized by the Covington Lumber Company, organized on April 1, 1906. Mr. Hartle is a stockholder in this concern and is both manager and treasurer. A large business is done and a considerable force of men kept at work.

Mr. Hartle married Miss Margaret Mikesell, a daughter of Jacob Mikesell, of Covington, and they have had two children: Mellie, who died when aged eighteen months; and James Lowell. Mr. and Mrs. Hartle are members of the Brethren Church. Mr. Hartle is known as an honorable, upright business man and good citizen.

FRANCIS M. BERRYHILL

MRS. MARY H. BERRYHILL

FRANCIS M. BERRYHILL, deceased, was one of Brown Township's prominent and substantial citizens, for over thirty years being identified with its best interests. He was born June 17, 1838, in Greene County, Ohio, a son of Archibald Berryhill. Through some of his progenitors he was connected with Hon. Charles Thompson, who was one of the early men of public affairs at Washington, D. C.

Mr. Berryhill remained in Greene County until 1864, coming then to Miami County and locating on a farm north of Conover, on which he resided until 1883 and which belongs to his widow, and then came to the present place, on which he erected a commodious residence, which is one of the largest and most comfortable in this section, all the lumber used in its construction having been taken off his farm. Here his death occurred November 13, 1898. He was engaged throughout the whole of his active life in farming and livestock dealing, and being a man of excellent business abilities, acquired an ample fortune.

February 27, 1879, Mr. Berryhill married Miss Mary J. Hill, a daughter of Samuel T. and Eliza J. Hill, of Spring Creek Township, and they had two children, Cecil Laverne and Ethel Erma. The former was born February 29, 1880, and has made himself felt in township politics, at present serving in the office of township clerk. He resides at home and teaches school in Brown Township. Ethel Erma married Harley Bowne, November 26, 1903, and they have one child, Francis Thomas, a bright little lad of three and one-half years. The late Mr. Berryhill was a member of the Presbyterian Church at Fletcher. In politics he was a Democrat and for a number of years he served in the office of township trustee. He will long be remembered for his many personal traits, his kindness to his family, his friendly assistance given to his neighbors, and also for his honesty and integrity as a citizen. He was one of the men whose word was always as good as his bond.

H. E. SCOTT, a representative citizen of Troy, who, since 1902 has been connected with the Troy National Bank, was born in Elizabeth Township, Miami County, and is a son of the late Thomas S. Scott. The father of Mr. Scott was born in 1844, on the same farm in Elizabeth Township on which his son was born, and spent some years as a farmer there. Later he settled at Troy and engaged in a hardware business for a few years, but subsequently purchased another farm and on that lived until the time of his death, in 1905.

H. E. Scott attended the common schools and the High School at Troy, later took a university course at Lebanon, after which he was connected with the Troy Buggy Works for some years. During the administration of the late Governor Nash, he served as recording clerk of the Ohio House of Representatives. In 1902 he became connected with the Troy National Bank. On March 3, 1897, Mr. Scott was married to Miss Alberta Stubbs, of Lebanon, Ohio. They are members of the Presbyterian Church. He is a Knight Templar Mason, an Odd Fellow and a member of the Troy Club.

JOHN WILLIAM ZOLLINGER, in whose death the city of Piqua lost one of its stalwart citizens and business men, was a member of the wholesale grocery firm of

Zollinger and Company. He was a man of very wide acquaintance in this vicinity, and had the confidence and good will of the people to a remarkable degree.

Mr. Zollinger was born in the house in which he died, at the corner of Broadway and Ash streets, February 13, 1859, and was a son of the late John Zollinger, an early merchant of Piqua. After the completion of his schooling, he began work in his father's store and later acquired a one-fourth interest in the business. At the death of his father, he and his brother, Samuel Zollinger, became equal owners of the store, which was conducted by them under the firm name of Zollinger & Company. He was taken away in the prime of life, and although suffering with an affection of the heart for a little more than a month, his death was sudden and unexpected. He died April 4, 1905, aged forty-six years, one month and twenty-one days.

J. W. Zollinger, familiarly known as Will, was married November 13, 1883, to Miss Bessie Cottingham, who was born and reared in Troy, Ohio, where her family has long been prominent. She is a daughter of William A. and Henrietta (Jones) Cottingham.

W. A. Cottingham was born in Troy, July 20, 1829, on the present site of the Hotel Troy. There he grew to manhood, but at an early age located at Piqua to enter the drug business with his uncle, Judge M. G. Mitchell, now deceased. He was married in Piqua, December 8, 1858, to Miss Henrietta Jones, who departed this life, April 17, 1894. They were parents of three children, two of whom are living: Anna (Mrs. Dr. Faulkner of Montra, Ohio); and Bessie, widow of J. W. Zollinger. A son, James, died March 5, 1879. Mr. Cottingham became affiliated with Center Lodge, I. O. O. F., at Troy in 1861, and was active in fraternal work up to the time of his death, serving as treasurer for more than twenty years. He joined with the Mulberry Street Methodist Church, July 30, 1871, and was thereafter a consistent attendant and liberal in its support. He passed into the Great Beyond, September 15, 1896.

Mr. and Mrs. Zollinger reared one son, John Cottingham Zollinger, who is connected with the wholesale grocery business, in which his father was a partner. Religiously, Mrs. Zollinger is a devout member of Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church.

WILLIAM P. MARTIN, who was born in Lost Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, October 15, 1830, and with his brother, Abijah Martin, resides on and owns an undivided farm of 204 acres in Sections 26 and 27, Elizabeth Township, is one of the prominent and substantial citizens of Miami County. He is a son of Joseph and Mary (Clyne) Martin.

Levi Martin, the grandfather, was a soldier in the War of 1812, from Pennsylvania, and in passing through Ohio, was so pleased with the appearance of Miami County, that he subsequently brought his family and established himself in what is now Staunton Township, where the present Mark Knoop farm is located. He owned 320 acres but sold 160, cleared the greater part of the rest and lived there until his death at the age of eighty years, when it went to his oldest son. He married Delilah Corbly and they had nine children: Corbly, William, Levi, Joseph, Andrew, Asa, John, Nancy and Elizabeth.

Joseph Martin resided on his farm of sixty acres, which was situated two and one-half miles north of Casstown. He married Mary Clyne, a daughter of Isaac and Olive (Ingram) Clyne, and they had three children, Abijah, William P and Hannah. Joseph Martin and wife died on the same day from the scourge of cholera, October, 1833.

When the Martin children were made orphans, their uncle Corbly was appointed guardian and William P. later went to live with an aunt, Minerva Hart. He resided while he went to school two and one-half miles north of Troy. The uncle, Levi Hart, had a cooper shop and there the boy learned the trade. When he reached his majority he bought a farm which he conducted in the summers and then worked at his trade in the winters. Wishing to see something of the country, he made trips to New Orleans at different times and also to Texas, where he bought stock and drove it north and shipped it to the great Chicago market. He then with his brother invested in another farm, one of 160 acres, in the vicinity of Alcony, which he operated for about five years and then sold it to George Crawmer and made another trip to Texas as a stock buyer. Later he worked for a time at the cooper trade at Casstown, Ohio, and then, with his brother, went into the real estate business, dealing in farm lands. Their present fine property coming into the market in this way, it formerly being the property of Levi Hart, the brothers secured it and have occupied it ever since, being partners in everything. Mr. Martin was one of the charter stockholders of the Troy National Bank and is a director of the same.

In politics Mr. Martin has always been identified with the Democratic party and on that ticket has frequently been elected to township office. For fifteen years he served continuously as township trustee, and has served with the utmost satisfaction to all concerned as a member of the School Board and as township treasurer several terms. Mr. Martin has never married.

ROBERT LEE KUNKLE, M. D., physician and surgeon at Piqua, with a very satisfactory practice and a wide circle of personal friends, is a native of Crawford County, Ohio, and was born at Galion, March 10, 1876.

After graduating most creditably from the Galion High School, Dr. Kunkle entered Otterbein University, where he was a student for three years, after which he turned his attention to the study of medicine, and in 1902 he graduated from the Ohio Medical University at Columbus, Ohio. He at once located in Piqua and during his practice of seven years has gained the confidence of his fellow citizens and has proved his medical and surgical skill. He is a member of the Miami County and Ohio State Medical Societies and is secretary of the former. He was reared in the English Lutheran Church. Fraternally he is a Mason and belongs to the Blue Lodge and Chapter at Piqua. Socially he is a member of the Cosmopolitan Club of this city.

C. ED. SNYDER, bookkeeper of the First National Bank of Troy, Ohio, with which institution he has been identified since the fall of 1874, was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, in October, 1857.

The parents of Mr. Snyder came to Ohio

in 1865 and settled first in Auglaize County and came to Troy from there in 1872. Mr. Snyder was then a youth of fifteen years and he soon sought and found employment in the shops of the Troy Spring Wagon and Wheel Works, where he continued until October, 1874, when he entered the employ of the First National Bank and has been associated with it ever since. Apart from his duties here, Mr. Snyder has other interests of more or less financial importance. He is an active citizen and for some years served as clerk of the Troy Board of Education.

In May, 1884, Mr. Snyder was married to Miss Mary B. Templeton, whose father, Rev. Milo Templeton, died after having long been pastor of the Old School Presbyterian Church of this city. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder have three children, namely: Emma E.; Ruth T., who is in her fourth year in Western College, at Oxford; and Charles E., who is in the office of the Eclipse Folding Machine Company, of Sidney, Ohio. Mr. Snyder is one of the leading members of the First Presbyterian Church at Troy and was treasurer of the same for twenty years, but resigned when he became a member of the Session. He has also been superintendent of the Sunday-school.

FRANK H. PHILLIPPI, head of the firm of Frank H. Phillippi & Son, manufacturers of harness and dealers in harness, trunks and traveling bags of all kinds, has always been a resident of Piqua, where he is well and favorably known. He was born in that city in 1858 and is a son of Philip Phillippi, who came to the United States in the early fifties and took up his residence in Piqua, Ohio.

Frank H. Phillippi was reared and educated in his natal city, and early in life worked for a time at stripping tobacco in a cigar factory. He then served three years' apprenticeship at the harness-making trade, at which he has worked ever since. In 1883, he engaged in business for himself as a member of the firm of Fisher & Phillippi, a business association which continued without interruption until the death of Mr. Fisher in 1908. Since that date the enterprise has been carried on under the firm name of Frank H. Phillippi & Son, and the same success has attended its operations.

Mr. Phillippi was married in 1881 to Miss Mary Schnell and they have the following children: Jerome, who is a traveling salesman and associated with his father in business; Marie, wife of J. A. Hefele of Kansas City; Gertrude; and George. Religiously Mr. Phillippi is a member of St. Paul's church, while his family are members of St. Boniface Catholic Church. Mr. Phillippi is a member of the Piqua Retail Businessmen's Association.

JACOB G. WAGNER, proprietor of the J. G. Wagner Tile Works at Covington, has been identified with the tile and brick industry for many years, having operated the first brick machines ever in use in Miami County. Mr. Wagner was born on a farm in Berks County, Pennsylvania, September 28, 1843, and is a son of George and Elizabeth (Gerhart) Wagner. The parents of Mr. Wagner spent their lives in Berks County. His mother was a member of one of the first families to settle there and both the Gerharts and Wagners were and are still old and honored families there.

Jacob G. Wagner was reared in Berks County and attended the country schools. From that county he entered into military service, being first attached to the quartermaster's department of the regular army, and later serving nine months as a member of the 167th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. He has been very active in Grand Army affairs and for a number of years was commander of Langston Post No. 299, of Covington. In 1877 he came to Covington and purchased the old tile factory which was first started in 1863, on the Henry Mohler farm, this being the oldest industry of its kind in Miami County. It was operated on the Mohler farm for one year and then was moved to its present location on Piqua Avenue, being situated on the eastern line of the corporation. Mr. Wagner has done a large business, in one year having manufactured over 3,000,000 brick, and his product has entered into the construction of a number of the substantial buildings of the county, including the Brown Block and the Kyle schoolhouse at Troy. Mr. Wagner owns thirty-one acres of land in Newberry Township, one-third of which lies within the limits of Covington and is very valuable real estate.

Mr. Wagner married Miss Harriet Pearson, who was born and reared on a farm in Newton Township on which her grandfather settled when he came to Ohio from South Carolina. Mr. and Mrs. Wagner have two daughters—Sarah, who is the wife of Conrad Drees, and Mary, who is the wife of J. L. Reck and has one son, Lloyd. During his residence of almost forty years at Covington, Mr. Wagner has been indeed an active citizen, for twenty-one years serving as a member of the City Council and performing readily every duty demanded of those who have had the best interests of this section at heart.

JONATHAN TOBIAS, a prominent farmer of Staunton Township, Miami County, is the owner of and resides upon a farm of 109 acres in that township, and is the owner of a farm of seventy-eight acres in Lost Creek Township. He was born on a farm in Montgomery County, Ohio, March 17, 1848, and is a son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Whip) Tobias. Daniel Tobias, father of the subject of this record, was born in Greene County, Ohio, whither his parents had moved from Pennsylvania. He was united in marriage with Elizabeth Whip, who was born and reared in the State of Maryland.

Jonathan Tobias spent his youthful days on the farm in Montgomery County, and there attended the district schools. After marriage he rented a farm in that county for about seven years, and in 1881 moved to his present farm in Miami County. He has always followed general farming, and being an industrious and far-sighted business man, has prospered beyond the average. He has made many improvements on the home place, among other things erecting a large and substantial barn.

Jonathan Tobias was united in marriage with Mary Jane Smith, a daughter of Alexander and Isabella (Waymeyer) Smith, and they became parents of the following children: Minnie Bell, wife of Alvin Welbaum, a farmer of Lost Creek Township, by whom she has two children, Harry and Ralph; Nora, who was the wife of Joseph Zile, and died at the age of twenty years; Harry, a farmer of Lost Creek Township, who married Lena Shaffer and has two children, Ohmer and Helen; and Maude, who died at the age of eight years. Mr. Tobias is a man well known to the citizens of his community, and enjoys their highest esteem and confidence.

DANIEL MORROW, a most highly esteemed citizen of Piqua, who now enjoys a period of comfortable retirement after many years of agricultural life, resides in his pleasant home at No. 645 West Ash Street. He was born December 16, 1843, at Centerville, Montgomery County, Ohio, where he attended school through his boyhood and remained until he was seventeen years of age. In 1861 Mr. Morrow came to Miami County and located on a farm on the Clayton Turnpike, two miles west of Piqua, remaining there until 1864, when he enlisted for service in the Civil War. He was a member of Company E, 147th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was stationed at Fort Ethan Allen, near Washington, remaining in the army for 110 days. He is a valued member of Alexander Post, G. A. R., at Piqua.

In 1866 Mr. Morrow went to Illinois and remained in that state for about ten years, during the greater part of this time operating hotels at Canton, Pekin and Decatur. When he retired from hotel-keeping, he resumed farming in Miami County, which he continued until 1907, when he retired to Piqua. He retains two valuable farms, one of seventy and the other of sixty-five acres, both of them being situated in Washington Township.

In 1873 Mr. Morrow was married to Miss Emily Hawkins, who was then a resident of Logan County, Illinois, but was born at Providence, Rhode Island. They have three children: J. Henry, who is a farmer in Miami County; and Lester and Wilbur, both of whom reside at Piqua. Mr. Morrow and family are members of St. James Episcopal Church. Very recently Mr. Morrow has retired from the vestry of this church, having served on the board for many years. Within the bounds of quiet, good citizenship, Mr. Morrow has always taken an interest in public matters, has served as township trustee and is yet serving as deputy supervisor of elections.

JOHN NEWTON SHOOK, one of Lost Creek Township's reliable citizens, resides on his well cultivated farm of sixty-five acres, which he devotes to grain and tobacco growing. Mr. Shook was born on this farm in Miami County, Ohio, February 18, 1860, and is a son of Isaac and Susan (Hufford) Shook.

Isaac Shook was born in 1822, in West Virginia, not far from Wheeling, and when he was about seven years of age accompanied his father to Montgomery County, Ohio, where the latter died soon afterward. Isaac Shook remained in Montgomery County for twenty years, during this time marrying Susan Hufford, who was born in Maryland in 1819. In April, 1859, they moved to Miami County, and Isaac Shook bought the present farm of John Newton, from James L. Long, and here both he and wife died, his death occurring in April, 1900, and her death six years later. They had the following children: Elizabeth, who is the wife of Alexander Mumford, of Clark County, Ohio;

Samuel, who lives in Troy; Sarah and Jane, twins; Mary Ann, who died in infancy; Thomas, who lives at Springfield; and George and John Newton, both of whom reside in Lost Creek Township.

John Newton Shook had but few school advantages in his youth, and when he was growing up hard work on the farm mainly occupied his time. After his marriage he continued to farm the old place, but lived at Casstown for one year and then went back to the country and remained with his mother after the death of his father, but at her death he bought the property. She was twice married, her first husband being Peter Syphord, and they had two children, Margaret and Peter, both deceased. The buildings standing on Mr. Shook's farm were put up during the life of his father, but he has made other improvements, and each year the place becomes more valuable. He carries on a general line of farming, and finds tobacco growing profitable.

On March 1, 1883, Mr. Shook was married to Miss Matilda Ranzow, a daughter of Frederick and Catherine (Vanderhide) Ranzow, both of whom were born in Germany, from which country Mr. Shook's ancestors also came to America. The Ranzow family also contained six children, namely: Augusta, Matilda, Frederick, Henry, Charles, and Emma. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Shook: Clarence, who died young; Della and Henry, both of whom also died young; Charles, who is a member of the graduating class of 1910 of the Troy High School; and William, Bertha and Frederick. It is Mr. Shook's intention to give his children every educational advantage in his power and thus prepare them for lives of usefulness, either on the farm or in some other line that they may seem best fitted for. In politics Mr. Shook is a Democrat. He is a member of the Masonic lodge at Christianburg.

J. A. GERSTMEYER, senior member of the plumbing firm of Gerstmeyer & McKale, is one of the leading business men of the City of Piqua, and has various business interests. He was born in Piqua in 1875, and is a son of John Gerstmeyer, who was born in Bavaria, Germany. The latter, who is now living in retirement in Piqua, came to this country in 1873, and for many years had brewery interests in Miami County, Ohio.

J. A. Gerstmeyer was reared and educated in his native city, and after leaving school was employed in a printing house for one year. In 1891 he entered the plumbing business with Mr. J. A. Kloeb, with whom he continued two years. He was then for six years identified with the plumbing firm of Dailey & Bullock, and for three years with Dailey & Stephens. He was next with the Burr Hardware Company three years, and in 1903 engaged in the plumbing business as a member of the firm of Frederick & Gerstmeyer. They continued successfully until March, 1907, when the present firm of Gerstmeyer & McKale was formed. They do a general plumbing, heating and ventilating business, and have had contracts for the equipment of many of the late buildings of Piqua and vicinity. Mr. Gerstmeyer also has various other interests in the city.

In 1902 Mr. Gerstmeyer was united in marriage with Miss Ida Hemmert, and they have two children, Mary and Martha.

Religiously they are faithful members of St. Boniface Roman Catholic Church. He is a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

JOSEPH E. MENDENHALL, of the firm of Mendenhall & Wilkinson, the leading one in the general insurance line at Piqua, has maintained his home in this city since 1859. He was born in Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio, November 5, 1838, and is a son of Isaac and Elizabeth (Stafford) Mendenhall.

Isaac Mendenhall was born May 6, 1804, at Todd's Fork, north of Cincinnati, and died in 1892, aged eighty-eight years. He was brought in infancy to Miami County by his father, William Mendenhall, who settled in the woods at a point about two miles east of Tippecanoe City. In his early manhood Isaac Mendenhall purchased a farm located about one and one-half miles east of the old homestead and resided there until 1859, when he came to Piqua, and during the balance of his active life was engaged in a contracting business. He married Elizabeth Stafford, who was born about 1806, in Bethel Township, Miami County, and died at Piqua, in 1873. She was a daughter of Joseph Stafford, who was born in Ireland and came to Miami County at a very early day. The name of his wife was Saylor, and she had been brought from Ireland in childhood.

Joseph E. Mendenhall was about twenty-two years of age when his parents moved to Piqua, and prior to that he had attended the country schools more or less continuously. He soon became a traveling salesman, and for twenty years was on the road with a wagon, for four years selling notions through Ohio and Indiana and during the rest of the time carrying only dry goods. For two years his headquarters were at Dayton, for one year at Cincinnati, and for thirteen years at New York. In 1880 Mr. Mendenhall started into the general insurance business in partnership with a Mr. Grafflin, which continued until 1895, when he bought out his partner's interest, and with J. B. Wilkinson, organized his present firm. This firm as representing all the leading insurance companies of the country, does a very large amount of business, and on account of its careful and conservative methods, enjoys general confidence. They place risks with twenty-two of the most responsible fire insurance companies of the world.

On February 18, 1873, Mr. Mendenhall was married to Miss Hattie E. Clark, who was born and reared in Miami County, and they have two daughters, Mary E. and Anna. The former is the wife of C. C. Jelliff, who is purchasing agent for the Favorite Stove and Range Company, of Piqua. The latter is the wife of Capt. Leon Roach, who is an officer in the regular army of the United States, belonging to the Fifteenth Regiment, which at present is stationed at Columbus barracks. Formerly Mr. Mendenhall took much interest in politics and he has never failed in any duty of good citizenship. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church and for a number of years was a trustee and its treasurer, but when re-elected to the financial office, declined to again assume the responsibility. Mr. Mendenhall is one of Piqua's representative men.

SOLOMON B. FRESHOUR, vice-president of the Citizens' National Bank of Covington, Ohio, has spent all but five years of a long and useful life in Miami County, but his birth took place in Shelby County, Ohio, September 27, 1834. His parents were George and Mary (Byrkett) Freshour.

From the pioneer farm in the then uncleared wilderness of Shelby County, the parents of Mr. Freshour moved to Miami County, in 1839, settling four miles west of Pleasant Hill, on a farm which the father purchased at that time and which remained the family home. On that farm Solomon B. Freshour grew to manhood, helping his father and preparing for an agricultural life for himself. His education was obtained in the country schools. When the Civil War broke out, Mr. Freshour was one of the first to respond to the call for troops, in his neighborhood, enlisting in April, 1861, in Company E, Eleventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in which he served for three months, later serving for 100 days as a member of the 147th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. During this time he was taken sick and lay ill in the hospital at Fort Marcy, on the Potomac River, for a long time. After the close of his army service he returned to his father's farm, and as soon as strength came back he resumed farming and continued to live there until 1866. In the meanwhile he had married, and moved then to the vicinity of Greenville Creek Falls, where he purchased a farm of eighty acres, which he still owns and continues to manage. He made the farm his place of residence until 1906, when he retired to Covington, of which city he is a respected and valued citizen. Mr. Freshour was one of the incorporators of the Citizens' National Bank of Covington, of which he has been a director since its organization, and vice-president since January 1, 1909.

In 1862 Mr. Freshour was married to Miss Hannah E. Langston, who was born and reared in Miami County, her parents, Leonard and Frances (Krise) Langston being farming people residing not far from Kessler. To Mr. and Mrs. Freshour were born seven children, three of whom died in infancy. The eldest son, John William, whose death occurred in 1898, at the age of thirty-five years, a victim of typhoid fever, was a young man of brilliant promise, a graduate of the Miami Medical College at Cincinnati. After years of training he was just ready to enter upon the practice of medicine, when he was stricken in his prime. He was survived by his widow, formerly Miss Lillian Martindale. The three surviving children of Mr. Freshour are: Mary, who married J. W. Dowler and has two sons—Leonard and James; Maud, who married Vernor B. Grabill, of Delaware, Indiana; and Thomas, who resides with his parents. Mr. Freshour and family are members of the Christian Church, in which he is a trustee. He belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic, to the Masons, and for many years has been identified with the Grange movement.

JOHN H. DRURY, assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Troy, Ohio, and formerly postmaster, is interested financially in a number of the prospering enterprises of Miami County. He was born at Rowe, Massachusetts, January 12, 1850, and is a son of John C. Drury. The parents of Mr. Drury settled at Troy in 1855 and this city has been the latter's home ever since.

John C. Drury was engaged in a dry goods and grocery business until the opening of the Civil War, when he proved his patriotism by raising Company H, Eleventh Regiment O. Vol. Inf., of which he was elected captain. It went into service in 1861, and Captain Drury was out for one year, when he resigned his commission and returned home, but only to raise a second company, this being Company B, Ninety-fourth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, of which he was also made captain. This regiment went to Kentucky, and in 1862, in the terrible battle of Perryville, Captain Drury fell at the head of his command, shot through the heart.

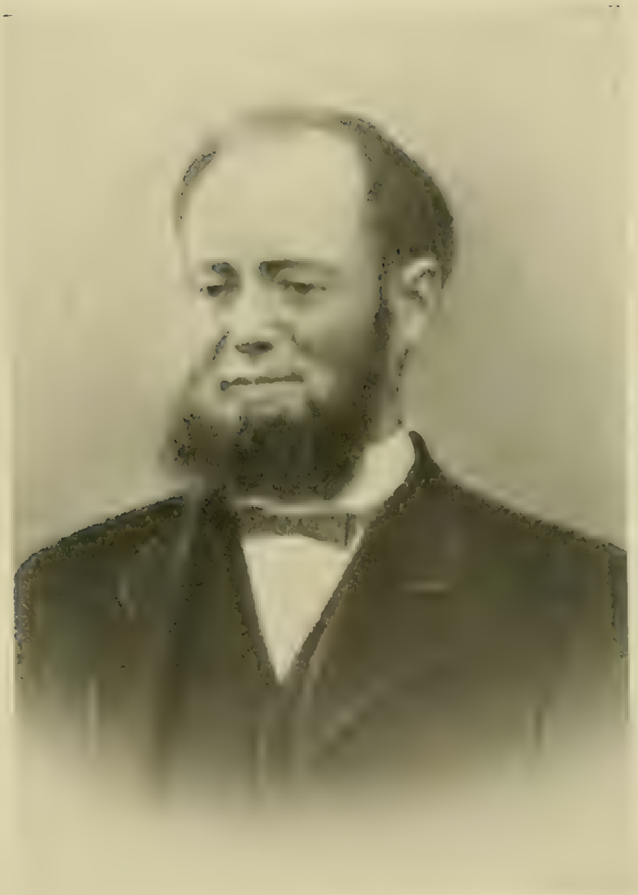
J. H. Drury attended the common school at Troy and then went through the High School, after which he took a business course at Dayton. Upon his return he became a clerk in the Troy postoffice, his mother being postmistress for eight years, and in 1875 he succeeded her and served until 1879. In July of that year he entered the First National Bank, and has been associated with this institution ever since, and has been assistant cashier since early in 1881. He is a man of considerable business enterprise, and has identified himself with manufacturing and other interests in this section.

In 1881 Mr. Drury was married to Miss Anna Clokey, who is a daughter of Rev. Joseph Clokey, formerly a prominent Presbyterian minister, but now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Drury are members of the Presbyterian Church at Troy, in which he is an elder. He belongs to the Troy Club. His interest in politics is only that of a good citizen.

SAMUEL B. KEPNER, deceased, who was identified for over half a century with carpenter and building contract work in Miami County, with residence during the most of that time in Covington, was born January 11, 1843, on a farm in Darke County, Ohio, son of Absalom and Margaret (Radebaugh) Kepner.

Absalom Kepner was born in Juniata County, Pennsylvania, where his father died, after which he accompanied his mother, in early manhood, to Darke County, Ohio. By trade he was a weaver, but his main business through life was farming. Prior to his marriage he ran a loom at Covington, but when he married Margaret, daughter of John Radebaugh, the latter gave him a farm in Darke County, on which he resided until 1859. He then came to Covington and shortly afterward started a little grocery store one and a half miles out in the country. Still later he operated a store at Clayton, where his death occurred in February, 1881.

Samuel B. Kepner was only fifteen years old when he started to learn the carpenter's trade under his brother, Benjamin Kepner, and for a number of years they worked in partnership. At the age of nineteen he enlisted in Company B, Ninety-fourth O. V. I., August 7, 1862, and spent three years in the service of his country. In 1872 Benjamin Kepner went to the West, and subsequently died at Denver, Colorado. From that time on until he was sixty-five years old and felt he was ready to retire from business activity, Samuel B. Kepner was engaged in contracting and building and met with more than usual success. He did a large amount of farm building, constructing many comfortable farm residences and innumerable



SAMUEL B. KEPNER

barns. One of his large contracts was the building of the tobacco shed for Joseph Mohler, which was 116 feet long, with an extension of the old barn of eighteen feet, one end being thirty-five feet and the other forty feet in width. It was Mr. Kepner's policy to keep plenty of help and to use only the best material, and thus he was able to be punctual and satisfactory in completing his contracts. During his last years of active business life he utilized a larger force of men and did more business than in any one previous season.

On August 12, 1869, Mr. Kepner was married to Miss Martha Boggs, a daughter of Aaron and Melvina (Hitt) Boggs. She was born and reared in Newberry Township, Miami County. Her father was born near Piqua, Ohio, and was a son of Ezekiel Boggs, who operated one of the early grist-mills on the Little Miami River. In January, 1873, Aaron Boggs moved from his farm to Covington, and there he died suddenly of heart disease, having been attacked while attending church. He married Melvina Hitt in Kentucky, of which State she was a native, and after his death she moved back to the farm in Newberry Township, where she died in January, 1883. Mr. and Mrs. Kepner had five children, as follows: Cora, who is the wife of William Helman, resides on a farm two and a half miles west of Sidney and has three children—Maurice, Ruth and Etoile; Amanda, who is the wife of Ora Wenrick, resides at Indianapolis, and has three children—Mildred, Pearl and Floyd; Melvina, who is the widow of A. L. Stahl, and has one child—Flossie; Charles, who married Nora Loxley, resides on his farm of sixty acres, in Darke County, and has two children—Naomi and Charles Ivor; and Pearl, who is the wife of J. W. Goudy, of Camden, Ohio, and has one daughter—Martha Catherine.

In 1883 Mr. Kepner moved to his farm in Darke County, residing there until 1907, when he returned to Covington, and subsequently occupied a handsome brick residence which he built in the fall of 1906, and which is situated on North High Street, adjoining the Highland Cemetery. Mr. Kepner belonged to the Church of the Brethren—the religious society otherwise known as the Dunkards, of which his wife is also a member. The last dread summons, which came to him suddenly on April 14, 1909, found him prepared, like the Wise Virgins, with his lamp trimmed and burning. An earnest and consistent Christian, we cannot doubt that he heard the glad words of his Master, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." He was ever a devoted husband and a kind father, and to his children he left the priceless legacy of a good name. He was a man of high standing in his community, one who through a long business career made honesty and integrity its foundation stones.

ISAAC H. KREITZER, nurseryman and farmer, residing on his farm of fifty acres, which is situated on the National Turnpike, in Bethel Township, Miami County, not far from Tippecanoe City, owns what is probably one of the finest homes in this section of the country, one of exceptional attractiveness during the summer seasons. Mr. Kreitzer was born in Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, October 10, 1850, and is a son of John and Catherine (Haak) Kreitzer.

The parents of Mr. Kreitzer spent their

lives in Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, where they were farming people of ample means. They had the following children: Henry, Jonathan, Michael, Andrew, John, Eliza, Aaron, William, Kate, and Isaac H. Many years have passed since Isaac H. Kreitzer left the old home and the beloved parents, but their memory is very dear to him and with pardonable pride he shows to the interested visitor a picture of his father and mother, done in pen and ink, bearing the date of 1824. It is a very artistic piece of work and the color has never faded in the least.

Before he was seventeen years of age, Isaac H. Kreitzer had completed his college course in Lebanon County, and for one year thereafter he taught school. He then became interested in the milling business and continued to work in flour mills in his native section until he was twenty-one years of age, when he came to Ohio and worked for one year in a mill at Westerville, Franklin County. From there he went to Tippecanoe City, where he followed milling for four years, in the meanwhile marrying, and two years after this event moved to Montgomery County, where he operated his own custom mill for twenty years. When he retired from the milling industry he came to Miami County and located first on a farm adjoining the one he subsequently bought, in Bethel Township, which he cultivated for six years and then came to his present place. Here he repaired all the buildings and equipped them with modern appliances for comfortable living, including a modern system of heating, and spending a large amount on beautifying his grounds. A cyclone that passed through Bethel Township in 1907 destroyed much timber, but he still has four acres standing. He devotes seven acres to cherry, pear, apple and plum orchards and makes a specialty of raising strawberries, raspberries and blackberries and general nursery stock. He bought this farm from the late Robert Defenderfer, who formerly conducted a fruit farm. Mr. Kreitzer has his sons, Charles E., John and Ray, as his partners and the business is conducted under the firm name of I. H. Kreitzer & Sons. In association with his wife, Mr. Kreitzer owns considerable valuable city property in Dayton, Ohio.

On October 10, 1875, Mr. Kreitzer was married to Miss Anna M. Ross, a highly accomplished lady, who was educated at Center Seminary, Indiana, and subsequently for nine years was a successful teacher in the schools of West Charleston and Brandt. Her parents were John and Eliza Ross. Mr. and Mrs. Kreitzer have had the following children: Harry C., John Ross, Charles E., George E. and Raymond Isaac. All survive except George E., who was a twin brother of Charles E., and did not survive infancy. Harry C. married Lucy, a daughter of William and Martha Johnson. Charles E., John and Ray reside at home. Charles E. is a partner with his father and is one of the prominent Republican politicians of this section, at present being a central committeeman. He is also a justice of the peace. Charles E. and Raymond I. graduated in the class of 1900 from Bethel High School and reside at home. The Kreitzer sons are musical, and in March, 1908, Charles E. Kreitzer organized the Phoneton Band, of fifteen pieces, he playing the E flat cornet. The band is fully equipped with fine instruments and an attractive uniform, and their playing met with such popular approval that in the first season they cleared $550. Charles E. Kreitzer is prominent in Odd Fellowship, belonging to Lodge No. 711 of Brandt and to Monroe Encampment, No. 140, of Tippecanoe City.

REV. HENRY HUEBSCHMANN, Jr., pastor of St. Paul's Evangelical Protestant Church of Piqua, is one of the young, earnest and scholarly clergymen of his religious body, and his strong and helpful influence has been marked since he has had charge of his present church. He was born at Princeton, Illinois, in 1876, and is a son of Rev. Henry and Martha (Hoffmeister) Huebschmann.

Rev. Henry Huebschmann, Sr., was born in Germany, and engaged in missionary work in the cities of Hamburg and Berlin before coming to America. He served as a minister in the Evangelical Protestant Church in this country for thirty-seven years. He married Martha Hoffmeister, a daughter of Rev. C. Hoffmeister, who was one of the pioneers of this religious sect in America. To the above marriage were born the following children: Pauline, who is the wife of Carl Lichty, of Cleveland; John, who is a minister; Louise, who resides at Cleveland; Paul, who lives at Bloomington, Illinois; and Henry. Rev. C. Hoffmeister had two sons in the ministry—John and Simon—the former of whom is stationed at Palatine, Illinois, and the latter died while pastor of a church at Peru, Illinois. On both sides Rev. Henry Huebschmann comes of ministerial ancestry. Rev. John Kroenhke, pastor of St. John's Evangelical Church in San Francisco, California, married a sister of his mother. His brother, John Huebschmann, is pastor of the Scheiflein Christi Church in Cleveland. Both young men were given excellent advantages.

Rev. Henry attended school at Elmhurst, Illinois, and spent four years in a seminary of the Evangelical Protestant Church, graduating with honors in 1896. With seventeen others he was recommended to the directors of the Synod of Eden Theological Seminary, and in 1899 he was graduated from that institution and in the same year was ordained, immediately afterward being thoroughly tested, being placed in charge of two churches in the Kansas District. He remained two years in the Kansas District, and then was given a church at Floraville, Illinois, where he served most acceptably until he answered the call to St. Paul's Evangelical Church at Pekin, Illinois, and remained there from 1903 until 1906, when he came to St. Paul's at Piqua. He is recognized as one of the most active and valuable members of the association, and outside his own religious body is respected and esteemed for his personal and manly qualities.

Mr. Huebschmann was married January 18, 1900, to Miss Johanna Kern, a daughter of Rev. Jacob and Phillipine (Kopp) Kern. At that time Rev. Kern was pastor of a church at Carmi, Illinois. His children are: Carrie, who is the wife of Dr. A. D. Lloyd, of Bloomington, Illinois; Johanna; Ida, who is the wife of Adolph Bair, of Harrisburg, Illinois; Julius, who is county judge of White County, Illinois; and Louis, who is engaged in business at Carmi, Illinois. Rev. and Mrs. Huebschmann have one daughter, Esther. St. Paul's Church is in a very prosperous state, there being about 200 families in its communicant body. They are not backward in showing their appreciation of their young pastor, and under their encouragement his zeal and enthusiasm are increased and his Christian efforts strengthened, adding to both the material and spiritual advancement of the church.

THE FAVORITE STOVE AND RANGE COMPANY, Piqua's largest manfacturing plant and the most extensive in Miami County, was established in 1848, by W. C. Davis, under the title of W. C. Davis & Co. This was succeeded in 1881 by The Favorite Stove Works Company, which, in turn, was succeeded by The Favorite Stove and Range Company, on July 1, 1888, when the business was removed from Cincinnati to Piqua. The plant in the latter city began to be operated in 1889.

It is always interesting to record the growth of a great enterprise. When the present company began operating at Piqua, the quarters were all included in a row of buildings that extended over their ground east and west, and another north and south, while now they have six rows of buildings, which cover ten acres of ground, and the whole plant is said to be the most complete for its purpose in existence. Employment is afforded from 550 to 600 people. The present officers are: W. K. Boal, president; Stanhope Boal, vice-president; E. W. Lape, secretary and treasurer. The board of directors is made up of the following capitalists: W. K. Boal, Stanhope Boal, E. W. Lape, and Jacob Bettmann and Adam Gray, of Cincinnati.

This plant manufactures only the very best class of stoves and ranges, and shipments are made to all parts of the United States. The universal trade-mark is "The Favorite," and it includes an extensive assortment of both steel and cast iron ranges, cooking stoves, base burners and all styles of heating stoves, together with gas ranges, gas heaters in a great variety of styles, and also furnace boilers and high grade, extra finished, cast-iron hollow ware. The company has branches in a number of large cities, and some fifteen traveling men go out from the Piqua office, covering a wide territory. The company has pronounced advantages in the manufacture of their products, such as the arrangement of their buildings, which do not extend high in the air, thus saving heavy and complicated machinery, while the equipments, in many cases, have been constructed from their own original designs, with a view to their utility. They have excellent transportation facilities, the location of the plant being on the corner of Young and Hydraulic Streets.

The enlargement of this business has been one of annual growth from the time the plant was located at Piqua. The company has increased its capitalization from $100,000 to $600,000 preferred and $900,000 common stock. This wonderful prosperity not only indicates the superior quality of the products, but also proves that the men who have built up this great industry along the lines of modern business possess unlimited ability and financial stability.

THEODORE L. ROGERS, proprietor of Fairview Farm, which consists of 265 acres of valuable land which is situated in Lost Creek Township, on the south side of the Addison and Casstown Turnpike Road, and is further brought close to hundreds of interesting points by reason of the electric railroad running through the property, was born at Casstown, Miami County, Ohio, March 6, 1860.

Charles P. Rogers, father of Theodore L., was born in Clermont County, Ohio, October 18, 1818, a son of Asa Rogers, who came to Ohio from New Jersey. Asa Rogers cleared up a farm near Addison, not far from the county line, lived on it for some years and died after he had retired to Casstown, when aged eighty years. He had the following children: Charles Parker; John, deceased; Furman, deceased; Mary Ann, deceased, wife of Almon Hammond, also deceased; Jarvis S., who was captain of a company during the Civil War; Joseph P., deceased; Nancy Ann, deceased, wife of Charles Sayers, also deceased; Harriet, deceased, wife of Dr. Deaver, also deceased; Sarah Jane, wife of George Causely, of Chicago, Illinois; and others who died in infancy.

Charles Parker Rogers was five years old when his parents moved to the neighborhood of Addison, and there he grew up and, being the eldest of the family, gave his father much assistance in clearing up the farm. The father was a very practical, sensible man, and insisted that each son should learn a self-supporting trade in addition to farming, and as this was an iron rule, Charles P. went to Addison and learned the blacksmith's trade and became so expert after serving an apprenticeship of three years that he could fashion anything in iron. After he returned to the farm he opened a shop at Casstown, which he operated until 1864, when he bought a farm of 100 acres, situated north of Casstown, which was known as the "Old Webb Place." After living there for two years he sold it and bought 193 acres on the Addison and Casstown Turnpike, this transaction taking place in 1866. He resided there until 1892. His death occurred on October 20th of that year, when at the home of his son, Dr. S. T. Rogers, at New Albany, Indiana. He was married (first) to Sarah Cox, who died after the birth of one son, Firman C., who is also deceased. On September 20, 1847, he was married (second) to the widow of A. M. Walker, Mrs. Eliza Ann (Markley) Walker, a daughter of George Markley, who died when she was a child. Four children were born to this union, namely: Irene, who is the wife of A. B. Thackhara; Theodore Lincoln; Gilbert M., who died when aged nineteen years; and Sherman T., a graduate of the Eclectic Medical Institute of Cincinnati and a physician in active practice at New Albany, Indiana. Gilbert M., who was cut off in his brilliant youth, was a mechanical genius and the family preserve models that he had made for a phonograph before the Edison discovery was put on the market. The mother of this family survived until January 16, 1891, dying at the age of sixty years.

Theodore L. Rogers was six years old when his parents moved to the farm and he continued to reside at home until his marriage, in the meanwhile securing an excellent common school education. He then bought 128 acres of land in Elizabeth Township. This he sold four years later to E. F. Sayers, from whom he purchased it in the beginning, and then bought 130 acres of his present farm, subsequently adding thereto until his total acreage has amounted to 265—a large property, which he devotes to general agriculture and stockraising. He remodeled the house and has erected all the other substantial farm buildings and the place is known by the pleasant name of Fairview Farm.

On December 6, 1883, Mr. Rogers was married to Miss Altazera Sayers, a daughter of E. F. and Caroline M. (French) Sayers, and they have two sons: Charles P., who is a member of the graduating class of 1910 in the Troy High School; and Albert Markley. The family belong to the Methodist Church, in which Mr. Rogers is serving on the board of trustees. He is a stanch supporter of the Republican party, and is one of the township's thoroughly representative citizens.

C. W. MITCHELL, superintendent of the Prudential Insurance Company of America, is a thoroughly experienced insurance man and occupies a position of great responsibility. He was born in 1864, at Columbus, Ohio, but was reared from the age of four years in Union City, Ohio.

Mr. Mitchell was educated at Union City and was twenty-one years old when he left there for Hamilton, Ohio. In 1889 he first became identified with the Prudential people, and worked for them for two years at Hamilton, and then up to 1895 he was connected with other insurance companies, in that year returning to the Prudential. He was made assistant superintendent at Fremont, Ohio, where he remained two and one-half years, when he was transferred to Springfield and worked as assistant superintendent in that field for two years. His next transfer was to Mansfield, Ohio, where he was superintendent for fourteen months, going then to Dayton, as assistant superintendent. Mr. Mitchell came to Piqua as superintendent in 1905, where he has his main office, from which the affairs of the district are looked after. He has an office at Troy, with E. L. Jacobs in charge as assistant superintendent, and from that office the southern end of the county is watched. The company maintains a third office at Greenville, one at Sidney and one at St. Mary's, the territory covered being from Tippecanoe City on the south to Cridersville on the north. Mr. Mitchell's energy has had much to do with developing the business of this section for his company, and he is justly proud of his record.

In 1892 Mr. Mitchell was married to Miss Clara B. Whitehead, of Hamilton, Ohio, and they have two children: Collin Ford and Myrtle Laurene. Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell are members of the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church. He is identified with the Masonic fraternity.

ELI HARRISON DRURY, a retired and highly respected citizen of Elizabeth Township, who during the greater part of his life was engaged in agricultural pursuits in Miami County, was born January 1, 1828, in Somerset County, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Drury left his native State when about fifteen years of age and located in Perry County, Ohio, where he was engaged in farming until his marriage, in 1848, at which time he removed to Ross County, and there became a clerk, and later proprietor of a store. Subsequently he went to Woodstock and became the proprietor of a hotel at that place, but later removed to Charleston, Bethel Township, where he served as clerk in his brother's store. Some time later he went to Miami City as a dry goods and grocery merchant, but sold out this establishment and purchased a farm of ninety acres from Benjamin Flynn, south of the city, on which he continued for fifteen years, operating as a general farmer. At the time of Mr. Drury's coming to this property nearly all the buildings on this property had been erected, but they were in need of repair, and this Mr. Drury accomplished, later selling the farm to Abraham Stortts. The next three years he spent on a farm of 105 acres, and he then spent one year on rented land at Brown's Station, but subsequently removed to another small farm, which he rented and which he devoted to the raising of grain for four years. After this Mr. Drury located on the L. Haines farm, and here his wife died July 27, 1907, interment being made at McKendree Chapel. After the death of Mrs. Drury her husband went to live with his son George G., who rents a general farm of Andrew Staley, of Elizabeth Township.

On March 12, 1848, Mr. Drury was married to Mary Ann Stortts, who was a daughter of John J. and Mary Ann Stortts, and there were eight children born to this union, namely: James; John H., who is deceased; Thomas J.; Alice A.; George G., who was married June 3, 1894, to Rebecca Ann Elliott, daughter of Fleming and Barbara Elliott; Mary E., and two children who died in infancy. Mr. Drury is very well known in the community in which he resides, and bears the reputation of a man of honor, integrity and public spirit. A Republican in his political views, he has served as school director for two years.

H. E. CLEMM, of The Francis & Clemm Company, retail lumber dealers at Troy, has been a resident of this city for the past fifteen years and is a native of Miami County, having been born November 21, 1863, in Union Township.

The late Daniel P. Clemm, father of H. E., was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, after his parents had settled there on coming from Maryland, the original home of the Clemms. Daniel P. Clemm was a representative citizen and substantial farmer of Miami County. He was a man of intelligence and public spirit and was identified with the Republican party.

H. E. Clemm secured his early education in the schools near his home, later attended the Georgetown Academy and spent one summer in the Normal school at Danville, Indiana. Following this he taught school in Miami County, Ohio, for nine years, and then came to Troy, where he went to work for Mr. Francis in his lumber yards. He was apt, capable and industrious, and in 1902 he was invited into partnership, the firm style then becoming W. H. Francis & Co., which continued until April, 1908, when the firm became the Francis & Clemm Company. The officers of the company are: W. H. Francis, president; H. E. Clemm, secretary; and N. Rathbun, vice-president. The business engaged in is the manufacture of sash and doors, in their planing-mill, and dealing in lumber. Their well equipped plant is situated on Walnut and Race Streets, at Troy, Ohio.

On April 7, 1889, Mr. Clemm was married to Miss Olive M. Mote, who was born in Union Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a daughter of W. C. Mote. They have two sons, Merrill W. and Herbert H., both of whom are students in the Troy High School. Mr. Clemm is a leading member of the First Christian Church, a deacon in the same, a member of the official board and superintendent of the Sunday School. This position he has held for the past fifteen years in Troy, Ohio, and three years at Ludlow Falls, Ohio, and by his enthusiasm and energy he has contributed largely to the membership and efficiency of both schools. He is a member of Troy Lodge, F. & A. M. No. 14, also a Knight Templar Mason. In business as well as in personal standing, he is one of the representative citizens of Troy.

T. H. NORR, who is engaged in the tin, iron and slate roofing business at Piqua, with headquarters at No. 114 East Water Street, is one of the representative business men of this city, where his interests have been centered for the past eighteen years. He was born in 1871, in Fort Wayne, Indiana, where he attended school.

When a young man, Mr. Norr learned the tinner's trade with Becker & Son, at Fort Wayne, and after he came to Piqua he worked for Lenox & Co., for one year, for J. M. Heim, for three years, and later for the Barnett Hardware Company and Dewees & Woodcox. In 1900 he formed a partnership with W. F. Lentz, under the firm name of Lentz & Norr, which continued until 1903, when he sold out to his partner and embarked in business for himself at his present location. He does all kinds of roofing and cornice work, making a specialty of heavy iron work, such as boiler building and smoke-stack construction, having the largest business in his line in the county, and affording employment to fourteen to twenty-three skilled men. His reputation for satisfactory work and materials extends far beyond the city and he is kept busy with contracts and orders from distant as well as local points. This business Mr. Norr has built up through his own industry and efficiency.

In 1895 Mr. Norr was married to Miss Georgianna Schutte, of Troy. He is a member of a number of fraternal organizations: the Masons, including the higher branches and the Scottish Rite, the Red Men, the Elks, the Knights of Pythias, and the Eagles, and belongs to the Elks Club.

WILLIAM ANTHONY, one of Staunton Township's representative and respected citizens, resides on his excellent farm of forty acres, which is situated in Staunton Township, about four miles north of Troy. He was born February 9, 1859, on the old Anthony place south of Dayton, in Montgomery County, Ohio, and is a son of John and Christianna (Baltz) Anthony.

John Anthony, father of William, was born in Germany and lived there until he was about forty years of age, mainly engaged in teaming and working around a mill. When he came to the United States he lived for a short time in New Orleans, from there made his way to Cincinnati, Ohio, and was employed on the construction of the Dayton & Michigan Railroad in Montgomery County. There he bought a small farm, which he sold in 1872 and then came to Miami County and bought a farm situated southwest of Piqua, on which he lived until old age. He then retired to Piqua, where his wife died first and his death followed, at the home of his daughter Lena, having passed his eighty-seventh birthday. He was married in Montgomery County, Ohio, to Christianna

Baltz, who was also of German birth, and they had five children, namely: John, who died young; Jacob, who also died young; William; Lena, who married John F. Cathcart; and John, who resides at Piqua.

William Anthony obtained his education in the schools of Miamisburg and was fifteen years old when he came to Miami County. He remained at home and worked for his father until he was of age, when he started out for himself, working as a farm hand and also in the shaft and pole works at Piqua. In 1886 he bought his present farm with the large farm house on the place. It was a part of the old Sutton estate and has always been considered excellent land. Mr. Anthony carries on general farming. In addition to this property, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony own a valuable residence property on Wayne Street, Piqua.

On February 22, 1887, Mr. Anthony was married to Miss Ida Scharff, who was born at Springfield, Ohio, and is a daughter of Charles Frederick and Wilhelmina (Uhlery) Scharff, both of whom were born in Germany, where they were married. Mr. and Mrs. Anthony have two children: Minnie Christine, who was married January 28, 1909, to Harry Free; and Ethel Louisa. Mr. Anthony and family are members of the Lutheran Church. In politics he is a Republican.

J. B. WILKINSON, of the prominent general insurance firm of Mendenhall & Wilkinson, at Piqua, has been a resident of this city for over a quarter of a century and is numbered with its representative men. He was born in 1873, at Dayton, Ohio.

Mr. Wilkinson was brought to Piqua when a lad of eight years and received his education in the common and high schools. His first business position was with the insurance firm of Grafflin & Co., and one year later, Mr. Grafflin became postmaster, but this did not interfere with the insurance business, and by the time Mr. Wilkinson was twenty-one years of age he had a pretty thorough knowledge of this line of work. About this time the firm became Mendenhall & Co., which was later succeeded by Mendenhall & Wilkinson, the senior member being Joseph E. Mendenhall. This firm does the largest general insurance business in Piqua and represents twenty-two of the leading fire insurance companies of the country. Independently, Mr. Wilkinson represents the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company.

In 1897 Mr. Wilkinson was married to Miss Katherine Hughes, the eldest daughter of the late Rev. Dr. T. L. Hughes, of the Presbyterian Church, and they have two children, Jane Hortense and Ruth Clare. Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson are members of the First Presbyterian Church. Fraternally he is a Royal Arch Mason and an Elk and belongs to the Piqua Club, of which he is secretary and treasurer.

C. C. HOBART, president and general manager of the American Fixture and Manufacturing Company of Troy, Ohio, has been a resident of this city for a period of fifteen years. He was born in 1857, in Vermont. When about eighteen years of age Mr. Hobart left his native State for school at Colgate University at Hamilton, New York; later spent one year in the Chicago Law School, and in 1881 was graduated from the law department of the Iowa State University. For two years after that Mr. Hobart was engaged in teaching school and then became interested in operating a paper-mill at Middletown, Ohio. About 1888 he established the Hobart Electric Manufacturing plant at Middletown, which he subsequently moved to Troy, and which he then developed into one of the largest manufacturing enterprises of the city. In 1905 he sold his interest in that plant and established the American Fixture and Manufacturing Company, of which he is president and general manager. The business is the general manufacture of electrical material and cabinets. He is interested additionally in some enterprises outside this city. He has proved himself an active and useful citizen of Troy and served for two years as a member of the Board of Public Service.

Mr. Hobart was married in 1886, to Miss Lou E. Jones, of Middletown, Ohio, and they have three sons: Edward, who is a student at the Ohio State University; and Charles and William, students in the Troy schools. Mr. Hobart and wife are members of the Baptist Church. He belongs to the Troy Club and is a member of the fraternal order of Knights of Pythias.

W. R. ELY, who is engaged in a commission brokerage business at Piqua, has been a resident of this city for the past six years, and in this time has shown himself an enterprising and progressive man of business. He was born in 1881 at Washington Court House, Ohio, and was educated in the schools of his native place.

After qualifying as an expert telegrapher, Mr. Ely worked two years as an operator in the railroad service, and then took up the brokerage business. His methods are careful and conservative and he has a very satisfactory number of clients.

Mr. Ely was married in 1903, to Miss Grace Surgeon, of Jamestown, Ohio, and they have two children, Hope and Ruth. Mr. Ely is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Elks and the Elks' Club and of other organizations.

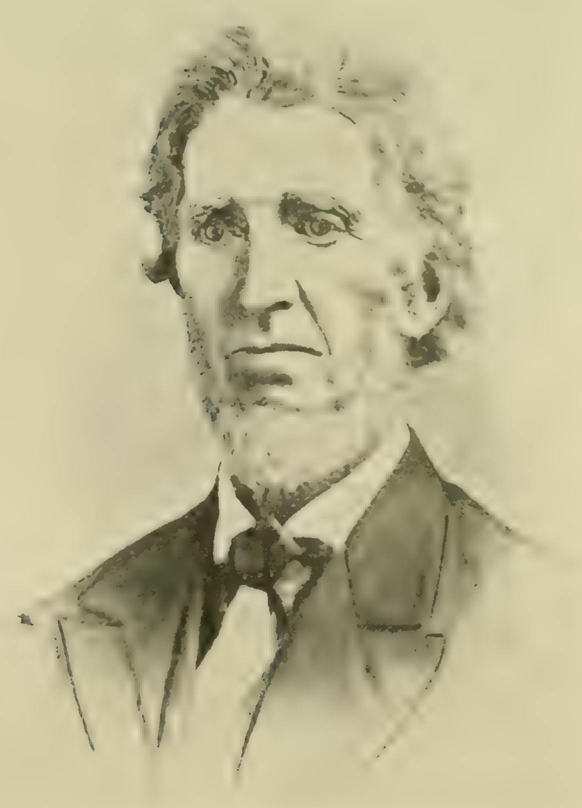
THOMAS B. STEWART, whose valuable farm, containing 120 acres, is situated in Staunton Township, is a representative citizen of this section and is a veteran of the Civil War. He was born September 22, 1840, in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, and is a son of Robert and Sarah (Barnett) Stewart.

The Stewart family is of Scotch descent and both father and grandfather were lifelong residents of Pennsylvania, and both lived into old age. The mother of Mr. Stewart was also a native of Pennsylvania, and she only survived her husband for thirteen days. They had the following children: Robert, who is a minister; Sarah, Margaret E. and Nancy R., all three of whom are now deceased; Thomas B.; John J.; Harriet C., who resides in Indiana; and William C.

Thomas B. Stewart passed his boyhood and youth on the home farm, always finding plenty of hard work ready for him to perform. After his marriage, in 1872, he came to Ohio, and in the spring of 1873 he bought his present farm from Daniel Sutton, and has done a large amount of improving here. His land is fertile and compares favorably with the old home farm in Dauphin County. In September, 1861, on his twenty-first birthday, he enlisted for service in the Civil War, becoming a private in the Seventh Regiment

MRS. ANNIE D. DRAKE

THEODORE A. DRAKE



DANIEL DRAKE

MRS. MARGARET C. DRAKE

Penna. Vol. Cav., and later for gallant action was promoted to the rank of sergeant. He served faithfully for three years, and took part in many important battles, including Stone River, Siege of Atlanta, and Chickamauga. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. In recognition of his services to his country when she needed them, he receives a pension of $12 per month. In politics he is a strong Republican.

On December 31, 1872, Mr. Stewart was married in Pennsylvania to Miss Matilda McElheny, a daughter of Samuel and Hannah (Radel) McElheny, and eight children have been born to them, namely: Robert E., who resides at Troy, married Bertha Heikes, and they have one child, Robert Clair; John J., who resides in Staunton Township, married Harriet Free and they have two children, Earl and Elsie May; Sallie E., who married Samuel McCurdy, of Troy, has three children—Ralph, Myrtle and Fred; Thomas R.; Arthur, who died aged about seven months; Nora; Charles G., who operates the home farm; and Pearl Edna, who married Murry G. Millhouse, of Spring Creek Township, and has one child, Helen Frances.

HERMAN GRUNERT, a member of the Board of Trustees of Washington Township, Miami County, and engaged in business at Piqua as a cigar and tobacco manufacturer, is a progressive and enterprising citizen and one who is held in the highest esteem by those with whom he has business relations. He was born in 1861, in Germany, and when six years of age he was brought to America by his parents.

Mr. Grunert's first year was spent on his uncle's farm, after which his rearing and educating were accomplished at Piqua. He learned the cigar and tobacco manufacturing business, which he has very successfully carried on in his own interest for the past ten years. He has taken quite an active part in town politics, and in the fall of 1906 was called upon to fill out an unexpired term of one of the township trustees, serving in the same very acceptably, and through election, 1907, still fills the office.

In 1880 Mr. Grunert was married to Miss Mary Erb, who died in 1886, leaving no issue. In 1901 he married Miss Lillie Lye, and they have two children, Marie and Lewis. They are members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, of which he is an official member and active worker. He is identified with both the Masons and Odd Fellows at Piqua.

THEODORE A. DRAKE, one of Washington Township's representative citizens, residing on his valuable farm of 138 acres, which is situated about two miles southwest of the postoffice at Piqua, has spent his life here, having been born December 28, 1840, on the old Drake homestead, on the Washington Turnpike, Miami County, Ohio. His parents were Daniel and Margaret (Curry) Drake.

Daniel Drake was born in New Jersey and in 1833 he accompanied his brother Jonathan and the latter's wife to Washington Township, settling on the farm which is now owned by Mrs. Jennie Drake. He married Margaret Curry, who died while her children were yet small, but he survived until 1892. The family consisted of five sons and two daughters, namely: Levi, who died in boyhood; Eliza, who is now deceased, was the wife of A. M.

Morrow; John C. and Theodore A., both of whom are farmers in Washington Township; Caroline, who married D. F. Licklider, of Piqua; and Thomas L. and George H., both of whom are deceased.

Theodore A. Drake attended the neighborhood schools in his boyhood and grew to manhood as his father's main helper on the farm. When he married he immediately built a fine brick residence in which he lives and moved from the old house into the new one as soon as the latter was completed. With the assistance of his son Bernice L. he carries on general farming and fruit growing, making a specialty of strawberries, but having an abundance of all kinds of small fruit, which he markets, together with garden produce. The farm is one of the most productive in the neighborhood and shows intelligent and careful cultivation.

In 1862 Mr. Drake was married to Miss Annie M. DuBois, who died on December 21, 1908. She was born in Warren County, Ohio, a daughter of William B. DuBois, but from the age of eighteen years lived in Miami County. Mr. and Mrs. Drake had eight children born to them, as follows: Edgar, who died aged six months; Meroa; Edith V., who is the widow of Hart J. Reynolds, has three children—Martha, Mary and Wayne; Alva D., who married Etta B. Rike, a resident of Miami County, resides in Van Wert County, and has three children—Helen, Margaret and Alma Dorothy; Otis, who died aged twelve years; Gertrude, who married Eugene Peck, has two children—Ruth and Carl; Bernice L., who resides on one section of the homestead, married Cora Farrow and they have two children—Theodore and Mary; and Ruth, who is a graduate of Dennison University and for three years was a teacher at Duquoin, Perry County, Illinois. Mr. Drake and family belong to the Baptist Church at Piqua. He takes only a good citizen's interest in politics, but in matters of local improvement and progress he has accepted responsibilities, at present is serving as school director, has served two terms as judge of election and refused appointment to the assessor's office.

CHARLES W. KISER, treasurer of Miami County, Ohio. The office of county treasurer has had no more popular, efficient and satisfactory incumbent than the subject of this sketch. Elected in November, 1905, he took office in September, 1906. By virtue of a change in the statute regulating the terms of county officers in this county, his term was extended one year, and he retired from office in September, 1909, having served three years instead of the statutory term of two years, as provided by the old law. His many friends, regardless of partisan ties, urged him to be a candidate for a second elective term, confident that he would have an excellent prospect for re-election, although making a contest in a county nominally against his party by 1,200 to 1,800 majority. This view did not meet with his approval sufficiently to overcome what he regarded as a sense of propriety in the matter. He uniformly acknowledged that his first election to the office was brought about by the help of his many personal friends, heretofore aligned with the Republican party. This he fully appreciated and was grateful for, moreover, the provisions of the new statute extending his term one year had weight with him in deciding to not ask his friends again for their suffrage, and he preferred to retire with the good will of all his friends, regardless of party ties, and with the sense of duty well performed.

Charles Walker Kiser is the son of W. I. and Martha A. Kiser, and was born in Fletcher, Miami County, Ohio, December 10, 1867, where he received his early education and training. He comes of worthy pioneer stock. His grandfather, the late Squire Isaac Kiser, was the first white male child born in Brown Township. Charles Kiser's father, W. I. Kiser, better known as "Billy Kiser," and who died suddenly a few years ago, was perhaps one of the best known men in Miami County and came within six votes of being elected county treasurer in this county in opposition to a strong man when the normal vote of the county was about 1,800 Republican. He was a member of Company E. 110th O. V. I. and a brave and gallant soldier, as the many wounds received on the field of battle evidenced.

In 1884 Charles Kiser moved to Piqua with his parents, where he assisted his father in the agricultural implement business with the firm of Kiser & Hall. So successful was the business, due as much to the enterprise, industry and shrewdness of the younger Kiser, that the father and father-in-law—Mr. Kiser in the meantime having married Miss Sadie Hall, daughter of the junior member of the firm—decided to reorganize the firm, Mr. Hall retiring and going to Sidney, where he established a thriving business, and Charles Kiser taking his place in the new firm under the name of W. I. Kiser & Son. The new firm was a most successful enterprise and the father, having implicit confidence in his son's ability, finally concluded to retire and turn the business over to Mr. Kiser, who afterward conducted it under the name of Charles W. Kiser at the old stand in Piqua. His successful and honest conduct of his own business affairs was an assurance to his friends that he would do likewise in a public office, and the people of this county in his election secured a model official, fully justifying their confidence.

No man in the state has the confidence of his fellow business men to a greater degree than that enjoyed by Charles Kiser, due wholly to honest dealing. He is well and favorably known in church and fraternal circles and is every way competent and is an indefatigable worker and of a most obliging disposition, attributes which are sure to make a most popular official.

JACOB D. DEITZER, general farmer and tobacco grower, residing on his excellent farm of eighty acres, which is situated in Concord Township, was born at Shelbyville, Indiana, May 24, 1860, and is a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Posz) Deitzer.

The father of Mr. Deitzer was born in Germany and was eighteen years of age when he came to America. He lived at Shelbyville, Indiana, when he married Elizabeth Posz, who was also a native of Germany. She was brought to America by her parents. Two children were born to this marriage: Margaret, who is the wife of Joseph Midkiff, of Johnson County, Indiana; and Jacob Daniel. The father died at the age of twenty-eight years, and prior to the birth of his son, who was given his name. Later the widow married Michael Shuler, and they had one daughter, Elizabeth, who married Augustus Steckleman, of Marion, Indiana.

When the fatherless little Jacob Deitzer was but five years old he also lost his mother, and was then taken by his maternal grandfather, with whom he lived until he was twelve years old. He then went to work for his uncle, Valentine Posz, who was a farmer in Shelby County, Indiana, and remained there until he was eighteen years of age. From his uncle's farm he started out then to work by the month, securing his first employment with Daniel Gayhimer, with whom he remained during one summer, receiving $15 a month. He then worked for two years for Daniel Callahan, also in Shelby County. He was about twenty-one years old when he came to Ohio, and during the first season he worked for John Halterman, near Dayton, Ohio, after which he came to Troy and hired out for one season to William Campbell, and later to both Benjamin and Joseph Enyart. During this time he was seeing considerable of the country, was getting well acquainted with some of the best class of people, and was learning all kinds of farming and saving some money.

When Mr. Deitzer was about twenty-five years old he was married to Miss Alice Alexander, a daughter of Henry and Eliza (Boone) Alexander. Henry Alexander was formerly a county commissioner of Miami County. After marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Dietzer moved to what was known as the Tobey farm, south of Troy, where he remained two years. Then, for the following twenty years, he rented other farms, but at length decided to settle permanently, and with this end in view, in February, 1907, he bought the old Stahl farm, from Frank Tenney, its improvements being the buildings now standing. Mr. Deitzer devotes eight acres to tobacco and raises some stock and excellent crops of grain and hay. Mr. and Mrs. Deitzer have two children: Horace and Raymond. The family belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics Mr. Deitzer is a Republican. For some years he has been a member of the order of Modern Woodmen at Troy.

D. L. LEE, United States storekeeper located at Troy, Ohio, was born in this city in 1843, a son of the late A. J. Lee, who was born in Virginia, of the celebrated family of that name, and came as an early settler to Miami County.

D. L. Lee was educated in the district schools of Miami County, and had scarcely left school when he enlisted for service in the Civil War, in which he remained from November, 1861, until its close. He entered Company E, Seventy-first Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, as a private, and was mustered out with the rank of sergeant. After taking part in the battle of Shiloh, he participated in the arduous campaign through Tennessee and Georgia and was on every noted battlefield where his regiment was engaged until the battle of Nashville, when he was so severely wounded that it was found necessary to amputate his left leg, the operation being performed in a field hospital. On one occasion he was captured by a band of guerillas, six companies being forced to surrender to Colonel Mason, at Clarksville, but he was paroled forty hours later. There were few hardships of war that Mr. Lee escaped, the entire record of his service being one to reflect honor on his name as a soldier.

After his honorable discharge in April, 1865, Mr. Lee returned to Troy, where he learned the jewelry trade and worked at it for two years. He then received his appointment to the United States Revenue department and served six years. In the fall of 1873 he was elected sheriff of Miami County and served two terms, being re-elected in 1875. After that he was engaged in business for several years in Kansas City, and after he came back to Troy conducted a grocery enterprise for six years. Then, under the administration of President Harrison, he was connected with the revenue service again for four years. Following this came four years as township clerk, when he was again appointed to the revenue service and has been an efficient officer in the same ever since.

In 1868 Mr. Lee was married to Miss Elizabeth Clyde, a daughter of George C. Clyde, who was a pioneer of Troy. Mrs. Lee died in 1905, leaving two sons: Harry, who is connected with the C. U. Telephone Company, at Indianapolis; and Fred, who is with the firm of Long & Knight, of Troy. Mr. Lee is a member of the Presbyterian Church. He has been secretary and treasurer of the Seventy-first Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Association, for a number of years, belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic and also is a member of the Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias, and has been treasurer of both these organizations for a long time.

A. S. ROSENBERGER, M. D., a prominent practitioner of the medical profession of Miami County, Ohio, has been located at Covington since March, 1878, and is now serving his second term as a councilman of that town. He was born on a farm in Hancock County, Ohio, May 8, 1848, and is a son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Hartsough) Rosenberger.

Dr. Rosenberger was reared on a farm and attended the common schools of his native community. He taught district school during four successive winter terms, and pursued a scientific course in Oberlin College. About the year 1862 he went to West Independence, Ohio, where he taught one year, after which he took up the study of medicine under Dr. Detwiler, of Findlay, Ohio. In the spring of 1871 he was graduated from the Cleveland Homeopathic Hospital Medical College, and immediately thereafter engaged in practice at Carey, Wyandot County, Ohio. He next practiced at Leipsic, in Putnam County, for six years, from which place he came to Covington. He has built up a large and remunerative practice, and has been identified with the development of the community and its institutions.

In 1872 Dr. Rosenberger was united in marriage with Miss Sabrina E. Workman, of Holmes County, Ohio, and she died in the spring of 1891, leaving two children, as follows: Charles L., manager of a large chair manufacturing plant at Syracuse, New York; and Bertha, wife of Dr. J. M. Wine, of Dayton, Ohio. In 1893 the subject of this record formed a second marital union, with Miss Elizabeth Delp, and they have a comfortable home in Covington. Religiously he is a consistent member of the Church of the Brethren, of which he is one of the ministers.

WASHINGTON IRVING TENNEY, secretary of the board of the Miami County Fair Association and formerly auditor of Miami County, is a resident of the city of Troy and has a wide acquaintance throughout this section of the State. He was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, near the Miami County line, in 1833, and is a son of Dr. Eli Tenney.

Dr. Eli Tenney, who was auditor of Miami County at the time of his death in 1873, was a well known exponent of the medical profession, and from 1848 until 1871 was in practice at West Milton. He then entered upon his duties as county auditor and moved to Troy. He was a graduate of Starling Medical College, of Columbus. Doctor Tenney was a member of the Legislature of Ohio one term, being elected in 1855.

W. Irving Tenney was practically reared in Greene County, Ohio, until his fifteenth year, when, in 1848, his parents moved to West Milton. He attended the district schools and also Columbus High School one year. During the war he was in the 100-day service as a member of the One Hundred and Forty-seventh Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was first elected county auditor in 1873, as successor to his father, and in 1875 was reelected for two years. Upon retiring from that office he purchased a farm just west of Troy, on which he lived and farmed until 1894; he then purchased a small tract of sixteen acres and lived upon it until 1905, when he moved to Troy, although he has since continued to superintend farming operations. He has been a member of the Miami County Fair Board since 1877, and has served as secretary of that body since 1883. He is vice-president of the Mad River and Miami Valley Fair Circuit. He was a member of the Board of Education of Troy for ten years, and still is one of the Board of School Examiners. In 1901 he was elected to represent the county in the State Legislature and served two terms with marked efficiency. Mr. Tenney was engaged as teacher for about twenty years, being superintendent at Milford.

In 1858 Mr. Tenney was united in marriage with Miss Jane C. Kelley, who died in 1901. The following were the offspring of their marriage: Miss Ida B., a teacher in the high school at Denver, Colorado; Frank W., a Miami County farmer; Charles Elmer Tenney, D. D. S., who is practicing at Sydney., Ohio; Alice Bertha, who lives with her father; Mary Estella, who at the time of her death was an instructor in the public schools at Troy; William Harold Tenney, D. D. S., who is practicing at Toledo, Ohio; Prof. George L. Tenney, who is connected with Lewis Institute, of Chicago, and is a graduate of the University of Colorado, at Denver, where he taught in the public schools several years; and Horace K. Tenney, who resides in New York State. Religiously the subject of this record is a member of the First Christian Church of Troy, of which he was a trustee a number of years. He is also a member of Coleman Post, G. A. R.

BENJAMIN I. DU BOIS, who now lives retired from active participation in business, enjoys the comforts of a beautiful home at No. 508 Spring Street, Piqua, of which city he is a well known and esteemed citizen. He was born at Franklin, Warren County, Ohio, April 7, 1842.

When eleven years of age, Mr. Du Bois accompanied the family to Miami County and he remained on the home farm until the age of twenty years and then learned the blacksmith's trade at Piqua. When Company O, 147th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, was formed for the 100-day service, he enlisted, in 1864, and during that period was on guard duty at Arlington Heights, near Washington, D. C. After he returned to Piqua, he worked for a time as a carpenter and then went to Union City, Indiana, where he worked at blacksmithing until 1887, when he came back again to Piqua. For four years he engaged in a farm implement business, after which he resumed carpenter work, which he continued for nine years, and then bought out the Model Laundry, which he subsequently turned over to his step-son, George A. Custer, who continues to operate it.

Mr. Du Bois was married March 3, 1875, to Mrs. Maggie A. Custer, a widow, having one son, George A. Her maiden name was Maggie A. Barnes—daughter of Adolphus A. Barnes of Randolph County, Indiana. One son, Lewis A. Custer, died in Denver, Colorado, 1901, aged 31 years. In former years, Mr. Du Bois took considerable interest in public matters and held office, for seven years serving on the Piqua Board of Equalization. He is one of the leading members of the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church. He belongs to the order of Maccabees.

ROBERT M. EVANS, justice of the peace, and one of Monroe Township's leading and substantial citizens, resides on his farm of eighty acres, which lies on the west side of the Dayton Turnpike Road, six miles south of Troy. He also owns a second farm containing forty acres, which is situated in Section 28, Monroe Township, one-quarter of a mile west of his present home. He was born on his father's farm, about one-half mile from his own land, in Monroe Township, Miami County, Ohio, March 18, 1845. His parents were Robert and Mary (Jenkins) Evans.

Among the big farm wagons that carried a family of pioneers into Ohio and passed the lonely log cabins that then represented the present busy city of Dayton, was that owned and probably driven by Joseph Evans, the grandfather of Robert M., who brought his family all the way from Georgia, in 1801, hoping to find a satisfactory place to locate, in a free state. The first stoppage was made in Montgomery County, near the Miami County line, but conditions not proving altogether to his mind, Joseph Evans resumed the journey and landed his family at Laporte, Indiana. There the pioneers lived until 1804, when they returned to Ohio and settled on what is now the Martin Idemiller farm, on the county line between Montgomery and Miami Counties. There Joseph Evans died some years later and his burial was one of the early ones in the Quaker cemetery at Mill Creek.

Robert Evans, father of Robert M., was born February 7, 1789, in Georgia, and hence was fifteen years of age when his parents finally settled in Ohio. When he reached maturity he entered Government land, securing a farm in Montgomery County, on the line, and there he built a typical southern house, two stories in height, probably with double "galleries," as they are still denominated in Georgia, and it is not difficult to believe that he took great comfort in this home. Evidently others thought well of the place as some years later he sold it to advantage and bought land in Miami County, on which the southern half of Tippecanoe City stands. At that time all this land was a thicket, except where Indians had made small clearings. By 1837 he had about cleared up this second farm and he then traded it for the partly cleared northwest one-quarter of Section 28, Monroe Township, the transaction being entered into with John Clark, who then laid out Tippecanoe City. On this farm Robert Evans died in June, 1863. He was a vigorous man into advanced age. He married (first) Eleanor Jenkins, and they had the following children: Thomas J., Joseph, Julia Matilda, Esther, William, Moses, Eli, and Maria, the last named being now the only survivor. She is the widow of Samuel Jay and lives in Indiana. The second marriage of Robert Evans was to Mary Jenkins, who was born August 20, 1839, and seven children were born to this union, namely: Mary, Esther and Aaron, all deceased; Jesse, who was a member of the Ohio National Guards, during the Civil War, now deceased; Kerren H., who is the wife of Darius Jester, of Montgomery County, Ohio; Robert Milton; and Elizabeth, who married William Macy and resides in North Dakota.

Robert M. Evans has a vivid recollection of a happy boyhood spent mostly in the fields and woods, with occasional attendance at the district school and of the time thus well spent he has a memento, a little gift which was presented to him in 1851, by an appreciative teacher, as a reward for good conduct. When he was about eighteen years of age his father died and he inherited the east one-half of the home farm and remained on the place until 1879. He then went to Ginghamsburg, in Monroe Township, where he entered into business with A. C. Beson, embarking in the general mercantile line, they carrying a large stock of farm implements, groceries and dry goods, and operating under the style of Beson & Evans. The partnership continued until August 2, 1894, when Mr. Evans sold out to Mr. Beson. In 1890 Mr. Evans bought his home farm from his father-in-law, Louis Keller; on this place his wife was born and reared. For many years it was known as the old Keller farm and the old brick house is still standing, although, in 1896, Mr. Evans erected his more modern residence. He does not personally cultivate his land, his time being fully occupied with his public duties.

On March 2, 1867, Mr. Evans was married to Miss Minerva J. Keller, who died February 6, 1909, aged sixty-three years. She was a lady of Christian life and exemplary character, one who filled every position that life presented to her, with the completeness of a good woman. To this marriage were born eight children, namely: Maris and Howard Virgil, who both died young; Zenetia B., who died at the age of nineteen years; Lilly H., wife of Adam Underwood; Sarah, wife of Harry Barnhart; Laura, the wife of Ira Oaks; Anna P., the wife of William Kendall; and Rhoda M., who resides with her father. Mr. Evans and family are united with the United Brethren Church.

Mr. Evans is one of the leading Republicans of Monroe Township. His war record is as follows: In June, 1863, he became a member of the Twenty-fifth Regiment, Ohio National Guards, which was then organized, entering Company G, under Capt. Newell Kerr and Col. B. F. Rossin. In 1864 the regiment responded to the call of the President and for four months did duty in the forts in the vicinity of Washington City. This regiment was known at that time as the 147th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. On November 6, 1876, Mr. Evans was elected justice of the peace, an office he has continued to hold ever since. In point of years of service, he is the oldest justice in Miami County.

FRED DOLL, Sr., a well-to-do farmer of Monroe Township, Miami County, Ohio, resides on the old home place of sixty acres located about six miles southwest of Troy. He was born near the River Rhine, in Germany, May 2, 1838, and is a son of Conrad and Mary (Genslinger) Doll.

Conrad Doll was born and reared in Germany and there for some years conducted a vineyard and engaged in the making of wine. Accompanied by his wife and their two sons, he came to the United States in June, 1843, the voyage consuming forty-two days. They moved to Troy, Ohio, immediately after their arrival in this country, making a part of the journey in a wagon. They remained in that city twelve years, Mr. Doll having an interest in a brick yard there. He then sold out his interest and purchased the farm on which our subject now lives of Israel Kessler for the sum of $1,800, the latter having paid but $900 for it the preceding year. But fifteen acres had been cleared and Conrad set about clearing the remainder. It was while thus engaged he lost his life by the falling of a tree, in March, 1861, at the age of fifty-two years. His wife survived him and lived to reach the age of sixty-four, although an invalid for thirty-seven years. They had seven children: Elizabeth, who died in Germany; Fred; Jacob; and four who died young.

Fred Doll, Sr., was a small boy when he came to America with his parents, and spent his boyhood in Troy, which then was a small place. He attended school but a short time, then worked in the brick yard for twenty-five cents per day. He also carried water for the men engaged in the construction of the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton Railroad, receiving therefor the sum of eighty-seven and a half cents per day. He moved upon the farm with his parents, upon which small wild game was at that time plentiful. They lived in the old log house which still stands and which Mr. Doll keeps as a relic of the pioneer days. It was originally provided with a clapboard roof, through which the snow would drift, and well does he remember sleeping with his head under the blanket to keep off the snow. He helped to clear the farm, which came into his possession at the death of his parents, and he continued to live in the log house for twenty-two years. He then built the seven-room frame house, in which his son now lives, and is at the present time building a commodious frame house for the use of himself and wife. He has always followed general farming, growing some tobacco, and what they possess has come mainly through their unceasing toil and good management.

February 2, 1860, Mr. Doll was united in marriage with Barbara Frank, who was born in the same community in Germany as was he. She is a daughter of Simon and Elizabeth (Farver) Frank, and was seventeen years old when they came to the United States, being thirty days on the water. They arrived in July, 1858, and located at Troy, where Mr. Frank worked and lived until his death at the age of seventy-eight. His wife died first, aged seventy-six years. They had nine children, of whom five died in Germany. Those who came to this country were: Catherine, widow of Jacob Smith; Barbara, wife of Fred Doll; Jacob; and Elizabeth wife of Fred Smith. Mr. and Mrs. Doll became parents of the following: Jacob, who married Dora Kerr; Samuel, who married Flora Rouser, and whose death occurred in 1904; Catherine, wife of Newell Kerr; Mary, wife of George Running; Elizabeth, wife of George Butts; George, who married Callie Kimmery; Fred, who married Irma Wheelock; Charles, a teacher in the schools; Dora, wife of Harry Fox; and two who died in infancy. Religiously, they are members of the German Lutheran Church. Mr. Doll is a Democrat in politics.

WILLIAM H. FOSTER, president of the Board of Infirmary Directors of Miami County, is one of the representative and substantial farmers of Staunton Township, residing on his estate, which is situated near Troy. He was born at Brent, Miami County, Ohio, in March, 1855, and is a son of the late John H. Foster, who came from Pennsylvania to Miami County in 1853.

William H. Foster was reared on his father's farm and farming has been his main occupation through life. In 1862 he settled in Staunton Township and has been identified with the interests of that section ever since. He has been a member of the township School Board for many years, and in November, 1907, was elected township assessor. For six years he has been an active and useful member of the Miami County Agricultural Society, and in November, 1906, he was first elected a member of the Board of Infirmary Directors and two years later was re-elected. On October 17, 1878, Mr. Foster was married to Miss Medora A. Secrest, who was born and reared in Staunton Township and is a daughter of John Secrest, an old resident of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Foster are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Troy. He is a prominent member of the order of Odd Fellows, at Troy, being past noble grand, past chief patriarch in the lodge and a past officer in the Uniform Rank degree.

J. GUY O'DONNELL, city solicitor of Covington, and senior member of the well known law firm of O'Donnell and Billingsley, with offices at Covington and Versailles, Ohio, has been a resident of the former city since 1887. He was born in Mt. Gilead, Morrow County, Ohio, April 28, 1875, and is a son of James and Mary (Williams) O'Donnell. He was but two and a half years of age when his father died, he being a marble cutter by trade.

J. Guy O'Donnell was reared in Morrow County, Ohio, and there attended the public schools. In 1887 he moved with his mother to Covington, Miami County, Ohio, and was there graduated from the high school in 1893. He read law under the preceptorship of Hon. W. C. Johnston of Piqua, and was admitted to the bar of Miami County in October, 1896; he was admitted to practice in the Federal courts on May 4, 1899. Mr. O'Donnell opened his office for practice in Covington, January 15, 1897, and has since continued here with a high degree of success. July 1, 1902, he formed a partnership with Thomas Billingsley, who has had charge of the Versailles office of the firm and is city solicitor of that city. They have an extensive practice, and in addition do a very large fire insurance business. Mr. O'Donnell first served a two-year term as city solicitor, from 1897 until 1899, and since 1902 has served continuously in that office.

He was united in marriage with Miss Emma Colbert, a daughter of Peter S. Colbert of Covington, and they have two children, J. Guy, Jr., and Roger C. Fraternally, the subject of this record is a member of the Elks at Piqua, of which he is a past exalted ruler; Improved Order of Redmen; and the Ancient and Honorable Order of Gobblers. He has filled all the chairs of these lodges.

JOSEPH A. KLOEB, proprietor of a plumbing and heating establishment and manufacturer of gas stoves, has followed this business in many cities and towns, but has been located at Piqua, Ohio, since 1896. He was born in Piqua in 1857, and is a son of Joseph A. Kloeb, Sr., who was prominent among the people of this community about the middle of the last century. The senior Kloeb was born in Germany but came to the United States and followed his trade as a saddler. He came to Piqua from Cincinnati about 1850, and here was one of the pioneer saddlers. He was organizer of the first fire department of the city, and at the time of his death in 1866 was serving in the capacity of street commissioner.

Joseph A. Kloeb, subject of this record, was reared and educated in Piqua, where he early in life learned the plumbing business. He has never followed any other business and has worked in thirty-two states of the Union, in the District of Columbia, and in Canada. In 1896 he returned to his native city, where he has built up a large and well paying business. He is a man of good business standing and enjoys a high degree of popularity. Religiously, he is a member of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church.

CHARLES A. ROBINSON, township trustee and a prosperous farmer of Lost Creek Township, owns and resides on a fine farm of 203½ acres, located near the Miami County line. He was born March 17, 1845, in a log house on his present farm and is a son of Michael and Eleanor (Richardson) Robinson.

Michael Robinson was born November 11, 1800, in New Jersey, and was there reared to maturity. During his early manhood he came with his mother to Warren County, Ohio, where he resided some few years, but did not purchase land. He was there married to Eleanor Richardson in 1826 and about 1834 came with his family and mother to Miami County, where he purchased a tract of timberland at $1.25 an acre. The family made their home in an old log house which stood upon the land and the nearest market was at that time Dayton, Ohio. Here Mr. Robinson engaged in farming the remainder of his life, his death occurring July 15, 1854, his widow surviving him until August 10, 1890. They were the parents of nine children, namely: Lydia A., married Nathan Jackson, both are deceased; Andrew J., deceased; Michael, deceased; Rebecca, married J. H. Corey, both deceased; Thomas, deceased; Edward R.; Eleanor, deceased; Charles A., subject of this sketch; and Hannah J., who is the wife of William Le Feever.

Charles A. Robinson was reared in an

old log house on his present farm and obtained his educational training in the district schools of Lost Creek Township. When still quite young he gave a helping hand to the work on the farm, and subsequently purchased the land from his father's heirs, the original tract consisting of 180 acres. He has always followed general farming, has erected a commodious eight-room, frame house and has made various other improvements on the land. He has always been a successful farmer and has added to his original purchase, now owning a tract of 203½ acres of rich farming land.

Mr. Robinson was united in marriage September 25, 1875, with Ina M. Wright, a daughter of Obadiah and Rebecca (Neibarger) Wright, who were the parents of three children: Dr. C. H. Wright, of Addison, who graduated from the Eclectic Medical Institute of Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1876; James G., a resident of Michigan, who is engaged in fruit growing; and Ina M., the wife of our subject. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, namely: James E.; Zella, wife of J. G. Scott of Troy, who has one child, Tom; and Leah, who married Dr. B. Hyde of Addison and has one child, Virginia.

Politically, Mr. Robinson is a Democrat and has served two terms as trustee of Lost Creek Township and was for some time a member of the Miami County Fair Board.

HON. M. H. JONES, a prominent lawyer of Miami County, who has been successfully engaged in the practice of his profession for the past sixty years, was born in the District of Columbia in 1825. He acquired a good literary education, and after studying law and being admitted to the bar, entered upon the practice of his profession in Piqua, where he soon made a name for himself as an able attorney, which reputation he enjoys to the present day. For a number of years beginning with 1878, he was associated in practice with his son, now Hon. W. D. Jones, common pleas judge, which connection was continued until the latter was appointed by Governor Bushnell to the common pleas judgeship, to fill the vacancy caused by the election of Judge Theodore Sullivan as circuit court judge. For the time of their association the firm enjoyed the leading practice in the city of Piqua and was regarded as one of the strongest possible combinations of legal talent. Mr. Jones's wife was born in New Hampshire in 1828, a daughter of Timothy Davis Wood, who settled at a comparatively early date in Miami County, Ohio.

Hon. Walter D. Jones, son of Hon. M. H. Jones, by the above mentioned union, was born in Piqua, Ohio, June 21, 1857. He was reared and educated in his native city, being graduated from the high school in 1872. After leaving school he entered the industrial ranks, learning the printers' trade and was for some time employed in the office of the Miami *Helmet*, of Piqua. He was also connected with newspapers in an industrial capacity for several years thereafter. While thus self-supporting, he had in the meanwhile entered upon the study of law under his father's direction, and in 1878 was admitted to the bar before the Supreme Court of the State at Columbus, Ohio. As already noted, his first professional experience was gained in partnership with his father, the firm being the leading law firm of its day in Piqua. Mr. Jones's appointment by Governor

RUFUS FISH

Bushnell to the common pleas bench of the second judicial district of Ohio has been already noticed. In November, 1899, he was elected by the people to fill Judge Sullivan's unexpired term. He was also city solicitor of Piqua for some twelve years, being elected for six terms, and his administration of the affairs of that office gave excellent satisfaction to the people. He was a careful and methodical lawyer, always coming into court with papers well prepared. In his more elevated position on the bench he has won the character of an able and impartial jurist. Upright, honorable and painstaking, his decisions are the result of careful thought and a mind well stored and trained in all the fundamental principles of the law. He is also a man of literary tastes and an able writer, though hitherto he has made no effort to gather literary laurels. A prominent Mason, he has served as worshipful master of Warren Lodge No. 24, F. & A. M., and as high priest of Piqua Chapter No. 31.

Hon. Walter D. Jones was married, in 1879, to Miss Laura Harlow of Piqua. Mrs. Jones was born in Tennessee and came to Miami County, Ohio, with her parents, Rev. William D. and Kate (Tuttle) Harlow, when in her eighteenth year. Of this union there has been one child—a daughter, Laura C.

A. E. SINKS, who will enter upon the duties of the office of auditor of Miami County, Ohio, on the third Monday in October, 1909, is a well known resident of Troy and has had a long experience in official life. He was born August 28, 1860, in Montgomery County, Ohio, and is a son of D. W. Sinks, who was formerly treasurer of Miami County.

Mr. Sinks came with his parents to Miami County, when he was eight years old, and was reared and educated at West Milton. When his father became county treasurer and moved to Troy, A. E., then twenty years of age, became his deputy and served in that capacity from 1880 until September 1, 1884. Mr. Sinks then embarked in the clothing business, in which he continued for twelve years, without, however, giving up his interest in politics and public affairs. In the spring of 1899 he was appointed deputy county auditor and remained in the auditor's office in this position until his own election. His long period of service has made him well known all over the county, and those doing business with the auditor will feel that they are meeting with an old friend.

In 1885 Mr. Sinks was married to Miss Maggie B. Tullis, who was born and reared at Troy, and is a daughter of the late O. M. Tullis. Mr. and Mrs. Sinks have two children: R. W. and Helen A. The family belong to the Christian Church. Mr. Sinks is an Odd Fellow and a Knight Templar Mason.

RUFUS FISH, the efficient superintendent of The Knoop Children's Home, which is situated in Section 34, Elizabeth Township, Miami County, Ohio, was born at Sumner, Lawrence County, Illinois, November 24, 1864. His parents were James and Mary (Denman) Fish.

The paternal grandparents of Mr. Fish were Luke and Mary (Graham) Fish, and they had a family of twelve children, as follows: William, born November 24, 1814; Margaret, born November 11, 1816; Thomas, born December 2, 1818; Elizabeth, born March 2, 1821; Luke Sidney, born March 31, 1823; Edward, born August 7, 1825; Mary Jane, born August 15, 1827; James, born August 28, 1829; George Washington, born February 22, 1832; Hannah, born July 16, 1834; Henry, born August 24, 1836; and Sarah, born May 28, 1838.

The parents of Mr. Fish came to Miami County in his childhood. The father rented farm land northwest of Troy, for twenty-seven years, and later bought forty-five acres near Casstown. James Fish married Mary Denman, a daughter of Richard Denman, and they had eight children, namely: Flora Agnes, born November 23, 1855; Frank Leotus, born November 12, 1858; John Clarence, born May 26, 1860; Charles Albert, born July 26, 1862; Rufus; William Ayers, born June 21, 1868; James Edwin, born August 12, 1870; and Elmer, born August 4, 1875. The parents of this family were members of the Baptist Church, in which James Fish was a deacon.

Rufus Fish attended what was known as the Favorite school in his boyhood, and remained assisting his father until he was about twenty-seven years of age. He then went to Troy and accepted the position of weighmaster with the firm of Allen & Wheeler, and remained in that city for twelve years, in the meanwhile, however, not entirely neglecting his agricultural interests. He owns one-half of a farm of 106 acres, situated in Elizabeth Township, not far from Casstown, and he has acquired realty in Troy.

In 1903 Mr. Fish became superintendent of The Knoop Children's Home, which includes a farm of 165 acres, with nine buildings and accommodations for 100 children. Its location is on a crossroad from the Le Fever and Springfield Turnpike. The wisdom of selecting a man of Mr. Fish's business capacity and high personal character has been demonstrated during the period of his superintendency. He has devoted twelve acres to orchards, raises a large amount of wheat and enough grain to feed the stock grown on the place for the use of the Home. Employment is constantly given thirteen workmen. Mr. Fish gives his personal attention to everything and satisfactorily fills all the demands of the trustees.

In 1890 Mr. Fish married Miss Mary Jane Walker, a daughter of Daniel C. and Amanda Walker, of Piqua, Ohio. They have an adopted daughter, Bernice F. Mr. Fish is a deacon and also a trustee in the Baptist Church. In politics he is a Republican. He belongs to both the Masons and Odd Fellows, at Troy.

JACOB KENDELL, M. D., for many years a prominent medical practitioner of Covington, Miami County, Ohio, is now cashier of the Stillwater Valley Bank Company at that place and devotes his entire time to the duties of that position. He has been identified with the institution ever since its inception, first as president and then as cashier, and is entitled to much credit for its great success.

Dr. Kendell was born on a farm in Newton Township, Miami County, November 16, 1846, and is a son of Benjamin and Mary (Boggs) Kendell. Benjamin Kendell was a native of Pennsylvania and came to Miami County, Ohio, when a young man. He was a miller by trade and became the owner of what was known as the Sugar Grove Mill.

The subject of this sketch was five years old at his mother's death, and three years later, owing to the death of his father, he became an orphan. From that time until he was twelve years old he resided in Piqua and since then he has been almost constantly a resident of Covington. He began his education in the public schools and before beginning his preparations for a medical career taught school for two years. He studied medicine under Dr. Weaver of Covington and later attended Miami Medical College at Cincinnati, graduating from that institution with the degree of M. D., in 1869. In that year he entered into a partnership with Dr. Weaver, which was continued for sixteen years. He then opened an office by himself and won high rank in his profession. He was one of the organizers of the Stillwater Valley Bank Company, and served as first president from January 27, 1908, until November 1, 1908, when he was elected cashier to succeed Mr. A. C. Cable, deceased. He is a man of exceptional business qualifications and well fitted for the responsible position he fills.

Dr. Kendell was united in marriage with Sarah Jane Brump, a daughter of Joseph Brump of Tippecanoe City, and they have two sons—Dr. H. W. Kendell of Covington, and Dr. B. J. Kendell of Tippecanoe City. The subject of this sketch is a trustee of the Christian church, of which he has been a member many years and treasurer for thirty years. Fraternally he is a charter member of Covington Lodge, K. of P., of which he was also first chancellor commander. He was for fifteen years a member of the School Board of the city, and for ten years a member of the City Council, but does not now hold any political office.

Dr. H. W. Kendell, son of Dr. Jacob Kendell, was born in Covington, Miami County, Ohio, January 4, 1876. He was reared in his native town and was graduated from the Covington High School in 1894. He then entered the Medical University of Columbus, Ohio, now known as the Starling, Ohio, Medical University, and after the usual course of instruction was there graduated in the class of 1898. He was resident physician at the Protestant Hospital of Columbus for a year and in 1899 located in Covington and entered into practice with his father. He married Llora Worley, a daughter of George Worley, and has two children—Elizabeth and Herbert Worley. At the time of his marriage he and his wife took a trip to Europe, the doctor spending several months in the leading hospitals of London and other large cities. He is a member of the Ohio State, the Miami County, and the American Medical societies. He is a stockholder in the Stillwater Valley Bank Company, first vice president of the Covington B. & L. Association, and a director in the Covington Home Telephone Company. The Doctor is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

ANGUS CAMERON CAMPBELL, deceased, was for many years identified with the dry goods trade in Piqua, Ohio, and other nearby cities and was a man of wide acquaintance, one who held the respect and confidence of his fellow citizens to a remarkable degree. He was a veteran of the Union Army, serving three years as a member of the Eleventh Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was wounded at Chattanooga.

Mr. Campbell was born in Piqua, February 14, 1842, and was a son of Robert and

Jane Campbell. He was of Scotch ancestry. He was possessed of many manly attributes which endeared him to the people with whom he was brought in contact, and was well educated and refined. He was a successful dry goods man and held positions with the Rike Dry Goods Company, Dayton, and for many years in Piqua with C. S. Parker & Company, J. W. Brown, the Feible Bros. at Hillsboro, and also in Columbus, where the last named concern had a branch store.

Mr. Campbell was first married July 10, 1872, to Cornelia A. Kitchen, daughter of John and Eliza Kitchen, and they had two children: Wirt Campbell of Tacoma, Washington, and a daughter who died in infancy. The mother of these children died in 1875. November 17, 1887, Mr. Campbell formed a second marital union with Miss Sarah Ellen Jarvis, who was born in Piqua and is a daughter of the late Francis and Mary J. (Johnston) Jarvis. One son, Malcolm Campbell, was born to them.

Francis Jarvis, father of Mrs. Campbell, is well remembered in Piqua, the city in which he attained the first rank in the business world, as well as the seat of his many benefactions. He was born May 19, 1821, at Downpatrick, County Down, Ireland. At the age of twenty-two, thinking to better his fortunes in the country across the sea, he came to America and endeavored to make his start in the city of Toronto. Being ambitious and becoming dissatisfied with the progress he was making, after a year's residence there, he determined to locate at Piqua, Ohio. From that time until his death he was an active figure in the history of the city and county, a period of fifty-five years. On August 1, 1887, he was chosen to fill the responsible position of president of the Piqua National Bank, succeeding the late J. M. Scott, and he continued actively to direct the affairs of this institution until within a few days of his death, which occurred August 25, 1900.

Mr. Jarvis was married March 2, 1847, to Miss Mary J. Johnston, and they reared the following children: J. J. Jarvis, a wool manufacturer who died at Defiance, Ohio, in June, 1903; Mary A., who is the wife of Wallace Alexander, a banker of St. Louis, Missouri; Frank, who is in the real estate business in Kansas City, Missouri; Sarah E. (Campbell); Elizabeth J., wife of Dr. W. S. Powell of Defiance, Ohio; and W. G. Jarvis, who is engaged in the manufacturing business at Defiance, Ohio. Mrs. Jarvis preceded her husband to the grave, dying July 28, 1895, her death having a saddening influence on the remaining years of his life.

The high estimate placed upon Mr. Jarvis as a man is revealed in an article which appeared in the local press at the time of his demise. From it we quote: "Not only does Piqua mourn the loss of a good man, a loyal citizen and a cherished friend, but all through Western Ohio, his great worth will be missed and business men realize that one of their noblest is gone."

"Old citizens remember him in his early struggles, and saw him steadily, surely building up that deep character that will live long after his face is forgotten, and that knowledge of business and affairs that has made his opinion carry great weight when a crisis was at hand. Later, in the prime of life, when his own success was assured, he took a deep interest in the growth of his chosen city, and has watched its progress from year to year until the present prosperous condition that it enjoys."

"There is little need to recite the many deeds of charity, for they are many, that have come from his hand. Generous, openhearted, philanthropic he was, and none in suffering who came to him for relief were turned away. Many of his acts of kindness were never known to others than himself, but sometime, somewhere, they will receive a rich reward. His biography shows that he lived for those who loved him and that no service done him was ever forgotten."

RAYMOND A. KERR, a prominent attorney of the Miami County bar and a member of the firm of E. H. & R. A. Kerr, of Tippecanoe City, was born November 10, 1880, at Tippecanoe City, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of E. H. and Etta (Tenney) Kerr.

E. H. Kerr, father of Raymond A., was born near Casstown, in Miami County. His school attendance covered his youth up to fifteen years and later he turned his attention to the law, graduating from the Cincinnati Law School. He began to practice before his graduation, in 1885, and is numbered among the successful members of the Miami County bar. He has been a resident of Tippecanoe City since 1878. He is a son of the late Thompson Kerr, who was a prosperous farmer and popular teacher for a number of years. Thompson Kerr died in 1887, aged fifty-six years. Of his four sons, the youngest, Owen, is deceased, and the other three are all attorneys, namely: Manford; Asbury, residing at Tippecanoe City; and Ellis H., who is the senior member of the law firm of E. H. and R. A. Kerr. Ellis H. Kerr married Etta Tenney, who is a daughter of the late Peter Tenney, a farmer, who died in Montgomery County, Ohio. To this marriage the following children were born: Loran, who is a railroad man, residing in South Carolina; Vera, who is the wife of Lieut. R. W. Kessler, of the United States Navy, who is stationed at Cincinnati; and Raymond A.

Raymond A. Kerr attended the public schools of his native city and the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, graduating in the class of 1902. He then entered the University of Michigan, graduating from the law department of that institution in the class of 1905. He immediately became his father's associate and the law business of the firm is very heavy, almost all branches of the law being covered by one or other of the partners. Mr. Kerr is a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, and belongs also to Lodge No. 174, F. & A. M., Tippecanoe City, and to Coleman Commandery at Troy, Ohio. On April 18, 1906, Mr. Kerr was married to Miss Myra Wehrly, who is a daughter of Rev. W. H. Wehrly, of Troy, Ohio,. Mr. and Mrs. Kerr are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics he is in sympathy with the Democratic party.

WILLIAM ALONZO COVAULT, whose valuable farm of seventy-five acres lies in Staunton Township, belongs to one of the old families of Miami County, his grandfather, Abraham Covault, being a pioneer settler in Lost Creek Township. William Alonzo Covault was born on his father's farm in Lost Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, July 1, 1850, and is a son of Erastus and Frances (Shell) Covault.

Grandfather Abraham Covault was born in the old block-house, at Cincinnati. In early manhood he started out for himself and came to Lost Creek Township when the whole surrounding country was one vast wilderness. He cleared up a farm and lived on it until he reached old age, when he moved to Mercer County, where his death took place. He had the following children: William, Sarah, Erastus, Timothy and John.

Erastus Covault was born in Lost Creek Township and there passed the whole of his life, making farming his chief pursuit. After he married he purchased a tract of fifty-two and one-half acres of land and on that farm he died April 20, 1861, when in middle age. He married Frances Shell, who was born near Casstown, Miami County, Ohio. She survived until 1896. She contracted a second marriage with Carter D. Hathaway. There were four children born to Erastus Covault and wife, namely: Viola, who married John Smith; Preston; William Alonzo and Horace P.

William Alonzo Covault grew up on the home farm and lived with his parents and attended the district school. Following the death of his father he purchased the home farm, which later he sold and then bought his present farm, which formerly belonged to his mother. He carries on general farming and understands how to make an agricultural life one of prosperity and contentment. His home and surroundings indicate much comfort.

On November 3, 1869, Mr. Covault was married to Mrs. Mary Yates, widow of Edmund Yates and daughter of Samuel and Mary (Chambers) Miller. Mrs. Yates had one daughter born to her first marriage, Sylvia Ellen, who is the wife of William Edward Gillespie, and has two children. To Mr. and Mrs. Covault there have been nine children born, as follows: Ottie, who married F. Drake; Mirtie, who married Charles Campbell; Flossie, who married Charles Derr; Fleetie, who died aged two years; Harry, who married Rose Trabert; Harriet Frances; Orval, who married Jessie Howard; and Clarence and Clifford. Mr. Covault and family are members of the Union Baptist Church. In politics he is a Democrat.

HENRY FLESH, who has attained prominence as a merchant and financier, has been a resident of Piqua, Ohio, for more than half a century, during which time he has identified himself with the development of the city and its resources in a patriotic and public-spirited manner. He was born in Bavaria, Germany, in 1837, in which province his father was a prosperous country merchant.

Mr. Flesh received a common school and commercial education in his native land, and was fifteen years of age when he emigrated to America in 1852. Soon after his arrival in the United States, he located at Dayton, Ohio, and for a period of five years clerked in a clothing establishment in that city. He was then for a short time employed in a similar establishment at Troy, Ohio, after which he moved to Piqua in 1858. He accepted the position of bookkeeper and salesman in the clothing house of A. Friedlich, one of the best known merchants of the city at that time, and continued in that capacity until the latter part of the year 1862, when he embarked in business for himself. He began a merchant tailoring business, but as his means were very limited, it was some time before he had a store of any great pretensions. He had the ability and the energy necessary to make a success of the venture and the personality to retain the friendships he had formed. As his trade increased his stock was enlarged, and he continued the business without change until 1878. He then disposed of the merchant tailoring branch of the business and confined himself exclusively to ready-made clothing and gentlemen's furnishing goods. "Quality" has ever been his watchword and his establishment, which is now probably the largest in Miami County, receives its patronage from the leading class of people in the community.

Mr. Flesh's success in this enterprise attracted attention to his ability and in January, 1878, he was elected cashier of the Citizens' National Bank, which position he still retains. He is also president of the Border City Building and Loan Association of Piqua, one of the safest and most prosperous institutions of the kind in this part of the state, and president of the Cron-Kills Company, manufacturers of furniture at Piqua. He served for some time as president of the Board of Trade at Piqua, during which time that body was kept at its highest state of efficiency and accomplished much that has been of lasting benefit to the city. With a view to giving Piqua an honest business administration it has been the policy of the ward in which he lives to have as its representative in the city council a man of proven worth and ability. Mr. Flesh has been honored with that office many years—a part of the time as president of the council—and at a personal sacrifice has given his time and energy to the faithful discharge of his duties.

In 1862 Henry Flesh was united in marriage with the eldest daughter of Moses Friedlich, a representative citizen and business man of Piqua at an early day. Fraternally Mr. Flesh has been very active in the Masonic Lodge, of which he is past master.

JOHN DANIEL MILLER, A. M., M. D., a leading physician of Tippecanoe City, was born in Marion County, Ohio, June 18, 1878, and is a son of Lucius O. and Lydia (Haywood) Miller.

The parents of Dr. Miller have been residents of Dayton for the past twenty-seven years. The paternal grandfather, Rev. D. R. Miller, is a venerable minister of the United Brethren Church and at one time was chaplain of the Ohio State Penitentiary. The maternal grandfather, Dr. John Haywood, formerly was a member of the faculty of Otterbein College, filling the chair of mathematics. Dr. John D. Miller has two brothers and three sisters, namely: Winton, who is engaged in newspaper work in connection with the Dayton *Herald;* Haywood, who is in the employ of the Dayton Manufacturing Company; and Grace, Edna and Marjorie.

From the Dayton public schools, Dr. Miller entered Otterbein College, where he was graduated in 1900, and completed his medical preparation in the Hahnemann Medical College at Philadelphia, where he was graduated in the class of 1903. He served for a period of fifteen months as a physician at the New York Metropolitan Hospital, after which he engaged in practice at Dayton until August, 1907, when he located in Tippecanoe City, where his medical skill has brought about his professional independence. He is a student yet and a close observer of all scientific developments in medicine and surgery, and enjoys his membership in the Dayton and the Miami Valley and Ohio State Homeopathic Societies and Union Clinical Society of Miami and Shelby Counties.

Dr. Miller was married (first) to Miss Honori Cornell, a daughter of John B. and Lucinda Cornell. In 1905 he was married (second) to Miss Julia Kelly. Mrs. Miller is a native of New York and prior to her marriage was a trained nurse by profession. Dr. and Mrs. Miller have two children: Helen Ahydell and John Haywood. Dr. Miller is not a politician but he is an active citizen and he votes on public questions with the Republican party.

SHERMAN D. CROFT, a prominent lawyer and real estate dealer of Covington, Miami County, Ohio, has been a resident of this village since 1901 and is numbered among its most progressive citizens. He was born on a farm in Newberry Township, Miami County, January 12, 1866, and is a son of David and Catherine (Whitmer) Croft.

David Croft, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Maryland, where he grew to maturity, and when a young man came west to Dayton, Ohio. He clerked in a store for a time and then moved from that city to Newberry Township, Miami County, where he was married. He became proprietor of a mill and grew to be a man of considerable importance in the community, in which he continued to live until his death in 1881.

Sherman D. Croft was reared on the farm and received his primary education in the district schools, supplemented by a course in Covington High School, from which he graduated in 1886. He read law at home and in the office of Judge Johnston at Piqua, and while continuing his professional studies carried on a real estate business in Covington from 1897 until 1901, when he was admitted to the bar of Miami County. During the winter and spring of the latter year he pursued a review course in law in Ohio Northern University at Ada. Immediately after his admission, he began practice in Covington and in the meantime has continued the real estate business with uninterrupted success. He has bought and sold many farms, and has been very active in building new additions. He has always identified himself with the best interests of the place and takes high rank among his fellow citizens. Upon the organization of the Stillwater Valley Bank Company in 1909, he took an active part in the affairs of that institution, in which he is still financially interested.

Mr. Croft was united in marriage with Miss Lillie Kauffman, a daughter of George Kauffman of Newton Township, and they have one son, named William Herbert. Fraternally, he is a member of the Improved Order of Red Men, of which he is treasurer; and is also a member of the Ancient and Honorable Order of Gobblers.

W. H. COLES, one of the younger representative business men of Troy, identified with large enterprises here and at other points, was born at Troy, Ohio, in 1875, and is a son of T. E. Coles, for many years the leading hardware merchant here and now a most highly esteemed retired citizen.

W. H. Coles graduated from the Troy High School in 1892 and then entered Amherst College, where he was graduated in the class of 1897, with the degree of A. B. The following two years he devoted to learning business methods in his father's store and for eight subsequent years served as secretary of the Hobart Company. In 1905 he organized the W. H. Coles Sales Company, for the manufacture and distribution of electrical machinery. He is also general manager and one-half owner of the Skinner Irrigation Company. He has succeeded as a business man both through natural ability and his energy, system and practical knowledge.

Mr. Coles was married in 1902, to Miss Fannie Thompson, who is a daughter of W. R. Thompson, of Troy, and they have one daughter, Charlotte Louise. Mr. Coles is a member of the First Presbyterian Church at Troy and is superintendent of the Sunday-school. He is a Knight Templar Mason and belongs to the Troy Club.

MRS. MARY A. GREER, one of Elizabeth Township's most esteemed ladies, for fifty years a member of the Cove Spring Christian Church, is the widow of the late John M. Greer, who died on his valuable farm of fifty acres, situated in section 14, Elizabeth Township, Miami County, now owned by Mrs. Greer, on July 24, 1906. Mrs. Greer was born May 31, 1827, in Adams County, Pennsylvania, and is a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Crum) Baldwin.

William Baldwin, father of Mrs. Greer, moved from Adams County, Pennsylvania, to Holmes County, Ohio, where he engaged in farming for five years and then returned to Pennsylvania, where he subsequently died. In addition to farming he operated a shingle mill for a number of years. He was married (first) to Elizabeth Crum, who was a daughter of Peter and Elizabeth Crum, and they had six children born to them, namely: Mary A., Thomas, John, Samuel, Peter and William. For his second wife he married Katherine Crum, who was also a daughter of Peter and Elizabeth Crum, and seven children were born to this union, namely: Joseph, Isabella, an infant, Ella, David, Jennie and Elizabeth. Three brothers and a half-brother of Mrs. Greer were soldiers in the Civil War and the latter was captured by the enemy and died from starvation.

The late John M. Greer was born in Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, June 3, 1820. He was the youngest son of James and Susanna (Essick) Greer. James Greer was born in Ireland and came to Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, in early manhood, married there and reared five children, namely: William, Nancy, Elizabeth, Rachel and John M.

John M. Greer grew to manhood on his father's farm and later became a woollen manufacturer. After his marriage and the birth of two children, he and his wife decided to move to Ohio. Their only means of transportation was by wagon and as Mr. Greer wished to take with him his household possessions, together with farm and mill machinery, the load made very heavy toiling over the mountains and Mrs. Greer remembers very distinctly how many weary miles she walked, carrying her little son William in her arms, to ease the load to the struggling horses. It required eighteen days to make the journey. First settlement was made at New Carlisle, in Clark County, where Mr. Greer entered into woolen manufacturing; he then moved for one year to Midway, and carried on a mill for two years at Lake Branch, moving then to Indiana for a year. He then retired from the milling business and turned all his attention to farming, renting a farm in Elizabeth Township for four years, and moving from there to Lost Creek Township, where he bought eighteen acres. After selling that farm he bought forty acres on Honey Creek, but one year later sold that place also and moved to Addison, buying four acres of ground there with a house and conducting a butchering business for about eighteen months. He then resumed farming, taking charge of the Carver farm for six years and then moved to the farm now owned by Mr. Esty, purchasing seventy-two acres. On that place Mr. and Mrs. Greer resided for eleven years, when Mr. Greer bought the farm of fifty acres, situated in Section 14, Elizabeth Township, on which he died. Mrs. Greer then moved to Troy for a time, renting her farm to a good tenant, but at present she is residing with her son William, in Elizabeth Township.

To John M. Greer and wife were born four children, as follows: William, who married Elizabeth Gearhart, a daughter of Nelson and Mary Gearhart, and has three children—Thomas Emory, William John and Mary Lizzie; Thomas, who died in infancy; and Savannah and Miriam R., both of whom are now deceased. At the time of his death Mr. Greer was eighty-six years of age and he was laid to rest in the Casstown Cemetery. He was a most worthy man in every relation of life, for years a deacon in the Christian Church and a liberal supporter of its various benevolent enterprises. In his political views he was a Republican, later a Prohibitionist, and at different times he served acceptably as justice of the peace, school director and township trustee.

William Greer, the only surviving child of John M. Greer and wife, was educated in the public schools and has devoted himself mainly to farming. He was married March 27, 1873, and for four years afterward continued to reside with his parents, later rented land and then moved on his present farm of fifty-seven acres, which is in Elizabeth Township. He resided in Troy for four years but returned to his farm on February 18, 1908. He owns an additional forty acres together with a house and lot in Troy. He put up all the buildings on his farm, on which he engages in general agriculture, including the growing of tobacco. The Greer family has long been one of the most highly respected in Elizabeth Township.

HON. JOHN CORNWELL GEYER, in whose death Piqua lost one of its foremost citizens, was a lawyer of much prominence and large practice. He had a wide acquaintance throughout this section of the state, and was frequently called upon to serve the public in official capacity. He was probate judge of Miami County two terms of three years each, and in the able and conscientious discharge of his duties added largely to his following in the county.

Judge Geyer was born in Piqua, June 12, 1860, and was a son of Frederick and Martha (Manson) Geyer. His paternal grandparents, Henry and Elizabeth (Bonner) Geyer, came to Ohio from Maryland in 1824; both died at Germantown, Ohio.

Frederick Geyer was born in Emmitsburg, Maryland, in 1814, and was about ten years of age when he accompanied his parents to Germantown, Ohio. Thence he moved to Piqua, Miami County, in 1838, and was there engaged in the hardware business for some years. He died in 1875 and was survived for more than a quarter of a century by his widow, who lived to an advanced age. She was in maiden life Martha Manson, and was a daughter of David Jr. and Sarah (Cornwall) Manson, and a granddaughter of David Manson Sr., who was a native of Belfast, Ireland. The last named emigrated to America in colonial days, and when the Revolutionary war broke out enlisted from Pennsylvania in the Continental army. In 1807 he emigrated to Brown Township, Miami County, Ohio, and here passed the remainder of his days, dying in 1838. He married Miss Jean Johnston, who was a cousin of Colonel John Johnston, the noted Indian agent of Ohio. David Manson, Jr., was a native of the state of Pennsylvania and accompanied his parents to Ohio in 1807. He was a soldier of the War of 1812. He married Sarah Cornwall of Virginia, and among their children was General Mahlon D. Manson, who attained distinction in public life. He enlisted in the Union army during the Civil War, and for gallant services was promoted to the rank of general. He was for several terms a member of the United States Congress from Indiana, and also served as auditor and lieutenant governor of that state. His death took place at Crawfordsville, Indiana, in 1893.

John C. Geyer, subject of this biography, was reared in Piqua, and after completing the public school course, entered the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio, where he was graduated in 1882. He then pursued a course in law at the Cincinnati Law School, and after his graduation from that institution in 1884, went west to Emporia, Kansas, where he was employed on the Emporia *Daily Republican* for some six months. In 1885 he returned to his native county and embarked in the practice of law in Piqua, where he thereafter resided until his death, which occurred February 21, 1901. A man of unquestioned ability, he built up a lucrative practice and gained a high standing in the community. An enthusiastic Republican, he was also an active politician and a hard worker for party success. In 1889 he was elected mayor of Piqua, being the first Republican elected to that office in a period of twenty-two years, a fact which is of itself sufficient evidence of his popularity. After holding that office for twenty months he resigned in order to enter upon the duties of probate judge, to which office he had been elected by a handsome majority in November, 1890. Re-elected probate judge in 1893, he served in all six years in a most capable and efficient manner. In 1896 he was prominently mentioned and received strong support for the nomination for member of Congress, but was defeated in the convention after a hard and honorable fight. After the expiration of his term of office he resumed his law practice, which he conducted with great activity and success, notwithstanding the facts that he was never physically strong or robust.

Judge Geyer was for many years prominent in fraternal work, especially so in the order of the Knights of Pythias. He served as grand chancellor of that order in Ohio for the year ending in May, 1900, and for a number of years prior to his death he was a director of the Ohio Pythian Home at Springfield, being for four years president of the board. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge, taking the thirty-second degree at Cincinnati; he also belonged to the Ohio Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

In 1888 Mr. Geyer was joined in marriage with Miss Binnie Page of Cincinnati, who was a native of Hamilton, Butler County, Ohio. Among her ancestors were near relatives of Daniel Webster and Jonathan Fellows, and she is also connected with the Fairbanks family, manufacturers of the Fairbanks scales, which are in use the world over. This marriage resulted in the following issue: Frederick P., Martha A., John Cornwall, and Mahlon H. Mrs. Geyer still makes her residence in Piqua, where she is well known and most highly respected, being surrounded by friends of long years' standing.

DANIEL C. KNOOP, proprietor of a grocery and bakery at Covington, Miami County, Ohio, has been a resident of this city since 1900 and has built up a large patronage. He was born in Casstown, Miami County, May 29, 1871, and is a son of Samuel and Martha (Brelsford) Knoop. He comes of a prominent family of that vicinity, and his father is a retired merchant of Casstown.

Daniel C. Knoop was reared and educated in his native town, and when nineteen years of age went to Troy, where for nine years and three months he was in the employ of McCullough & Company. He then represented a grocery firm on the road for eighteen months, at the end of which time he established a grocery and bakery at Covington. He does his own baking and the trade he has built up is such as to require the use of two delivery wagons, one for each department. He is an enterprising and progressive man, of no mean business ability, and he occupies a place high in the esteem of his fellow citizens. Mr. Knoop was united in marriage with Miss Ruth Rench, a daughter of George Rench of Covington, and they have three children—Ralph Edgar, Mary Margaret, and Irene. Fraternally, he is a member of the Masonic Order and has attained the thirty-second degree.

ABRAHAM R. GARVER, a leading business man of Tippecanoe City, carrying on a large manufacturing enterprise, is secretary, treasurer and general manager of the Tipp Furniture Company. He was born on a farm nine miles west of Springfield, Ohio, and is a son of Benjamin C. and Ruth Garver.

Abraham Garver, the paternal grandfather, came to Clark County, Ohio, from Maryland, in 1831. By trade he was a farmer. At that time his son, Benjamin C., was a child of two years. He was reared in Clark County and continued to reside there until 1885, when he moved to Harper County, Kansas, which continues to be his home.

To Benjamin C. Garver and wife were born eight sons and three daughters, and of this family but two are deceased, Elizabeth and Ruth. The survivors are: John N., residing at Springfield, Ohio, where he is engaged in the real estate business; Abraham R., of Tippecanoe City; Frank R., who is an electrical engineer with the Westinghouse company at Pittsburg; James L., who carries on an insurance business at Richmond, Indiana; Walter D., residing also at Richmond, engaged in the flour and feed business; Edward L., who is interested in lumber in Minnesota; George G., who is a farmer and stock dealer in Harper County, Kansas; Clara E., who is the wife of Ora J. McDowell, of Shattuck, Oklahoma; and Arthur C., who is a farmer residing near Shattuck.

Abraham R. Garver obtained his education in the public schools, Wittenburg College and Nelson's Business College, after one year of commercial training, in 1883, accepting a position as traveling salesman for the U. S. Wind Engine & Pump Company. He left the road in 1888 in order to enter into the manufacturing business at Troy, Ohio, and from there came to Tippecanoe City in 1889, since when he has been officially identified with the Tipp Furniture Company. This concern is a stock company, having a capital of $20,000, and is one of the most prosperous and important business enterprises of Tippecanoe City. The well equipped manufacturing plant utilizes a large brick structure and occupies 25,000 square feet of floor space and gives constant employment to a skilled force of some forty-five men. The output is bed room suits, dressers, chiffoniers and wash-stands. Mr. Garver has been a very active business citizen for the past twenty years and is financially interested in other enterprises than the one mentioned, and is a director in the Citizens' National Bank of Tippecanoe City.

In 1887 Mr. Garver was married to Miss Ida Rohrer, who is a daughter of Jacob Rohrer, of this city, and they have three children—Ruth E., Karl R. and Jacob C. He belongs with his family, to the English Lutheran Church and is a member of the church council. In his political views he is a Republican but has never been willing to assume the duties of public office. He is prominent in Masonry, belonging to Tippecanoe Lodge No. 174, F. & A. M.; Reed Commandery No. 6; Franklin Chapter No. 24; and Antioch Temple, Mystic Shrine, of Dayton.

EDWIN N. RUSK is a well known agriculturist of Staunton Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is the owner of a fine farm of eighty-seven acres. He was born on his father's farm in Spring Creek Township, Miami County, September 13, 1859, and is a son of William and Mary Jane (Anderson) Rusk, and a grandson of James and Sarah (French) Rusk. James Rusk, the grandfather, was of Scotch-Irish parentage, and came from the North of Ireland to Warren County, Ohio, locating near Franklin, where he was married and lived the remainder of his life.

William Rusk was one of the oldest of ten children born to his parents and was born in Warren County, Ohio, July 27, 1820. He helped to clear the home farm there and after his marriage moved to West Charleston, in Miami County, Ohio. He later located on a farm in Shelby County, and from there returned to Miami County, purchasing a farm of 112 acres in Spring Creek Township. He sold out after a few years and in March, 1864, purchased of Henry DeWeese the farm on which his son Edwin N. Rusk now lives. Here he passed the remainder of his life, dying in January, 1891. His wife, Mary Jane Anderson, who was born in 1823, died in March, 1890. They were parents of the following children: William Franklin; Lettie, deceased wife of Albert Kinder; Walter Scott; Edwin Nelson; Luella; James A.; John N.; and two who died in infancy. Both James A. and John N. were killed in battle in the Civil War.

Edwin Nelson Rusk was less than five years of age when his parents located upon the farm on which he now lives, and he received a fair education in the public schools of this district, first attending the old Peterson school. He started to farming at an early age and has since continued with good results. After the death of his parents, he purchased the interests of the other heirs in the home farm, on which he now has made many important improvements.

February 21, 1884, Mr. Rusk was united in marriage with Miss Minnie Hart, a daughter of John and Susan (Harritt) Hart, her father being a native of Trenton, New Jersey, and her mother of Greene County, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Hart at an early date became residents of Miami County, where they were married. He was born in 1823, and died in June, 1905, and Mrs. Hart, who was born in 1834, is still living. They had two children—Joseph G. Hart, of Troy, Ohio; and Minnie, wife of the subject of this sketch.

Mr. and Mrs. Rusk also became parents of two children: Lettie M., wife of Frank Weatherhead, of Staunton Township, by whom she has a daughter, Helen Marie; and Velva, who died at the age of one year and eighteen days. Religiously they are members of the Christian Church of Troy. In politics Mr. Rusk is a Republican, and has served as justice of the peace and assessor, and in other minor offices.

WILLIAM B. HAWN, a leading citizen of Bethel Township, who successfully operates a valuable farm of eighty acres, which lies in Section 19, near Phoneton, on the National Road, was born August 22, 1844, in Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of John and Margaret (Saylor) Hawn.

John Hawn was born in Pennsylvania and in young manhood came to Miami County and secured farm work with the old Knoop family. Following his marriage, he moved to Bethel Township and bought 172 acres of land, all of which he cleared. He was a man of unusual energy and robustness; in addition to clearing his land and putting it under cultivation, he engaged in milling and blacksmithing. He also found time and opportunity to serve his country in time of war, and went out with an Ohio company in the War of 1812, returning home unharmed. He died when aged seventy-three years, having been respected from youth into old age. He served his township as school director for a number of years, but would not accept other public office. He married a daughter of John Saylor and they had fifteen children, Elias and William B., the twelfth and thirteenth members of the family, being the only survivors. The remains of both John Hawn and his wife rest in the old Saylor Cemetery.

William B. Hawn attended the Fairview school in his boyhood and remained on the home farm until his father died, when the property was sold, each survivor at that time getting his share. For several years he worked at farming by the month, and was then engaged in farming for himself on rented land near Brandt, for three years, when he married. After this he bought his present farm from Mr. Neff, of Montgomery County. He cleared about twenty acres of the land, put in 1,000 rods

J. A. SHADE

of tile and erected all the substantial buildings. With the exception of eight acres of timber, he has all his land under good cultivation.

On August 8, 1865, Mr. Hawn was married to Miss Melissa Booker, a daughter of Solomon Booker, and they have had the following children born to them, namely: Elizabeth, who is the wife of John Staub; Minnie, who married Frank Brooks; Margaret, who married Irvin Cavanaugh; Mary, who married Jacob Heffner; Jessie, who married Walter Hartman; Ora and Dora, twins, who live at home; Charles, who married Dolly Dill; Samuel, who married Augusta Brooks; and Earl, Clara and John. Of these Margaret, Clara and John are deceased. Mr. Hawn and family are members of the Lutheran Church at Brandt.

In politics Mr. Hawn is an active Democrat and has frequently been chosen by his party for offices of responsibility in the township. For thirty years he has been constable of Bethel Township, for years has been a trustee, during two terms served on the School Board and has held other positions of a public nature. Formerly he was identified with the Odd Fellows at Osborn. If all men were like Mr. Hawn, the doctors in this section would have a hard time making their living, for, with his robust constitution and perpetual good health, he never has cause to consult them. In all his life, he asserts, he has never spent even fifty cents for a physician's prescription for himself. There are millionaires who would be glad to be able to make the same assertion.

J. A. SHADE, secretary and treasurer of The Wright-Kuntz Lumber Company, of Piqua, has been a resident of this city for the past twenty years, coming here in 1889. He was born at Dayton, Ohio, June 30, 1855, where he was reared and educated.

Mr. Shade remained a resident of Dayton until February, 1872, when he moved to Darke County for a few years. From there he went to Noblesville, Indiana, for a short time, and then spent one year engaged in farming near Springfield, Missouri. After he returned to Ohio he went into the lumber business at Greenville, in which he continued until 1889, when he came to Piqua, engaging in the lumber business with the Wright-Kuntz Company. In 1896 the plant was burned and when the business was reorganized it was incorporated as The Wright-Kuntz Lumber Company, with a capital stock of $10,000. The present officers are: Peter Kuntz, of Dayton, president; J. A. Payne, vice-president; and J. A. Shade, secretary and treasurer. The company deals in all kinds of lumber, both wholesale and retail. Mr. Shade is also president of Acme Remedy Company of Piqua and is numbered with the city's able and active business men.

In 1881, Mr. Shade was married to Miss Kate L. Evans, and they have one child living, Ruth M., and three deceased—two boys and one girl. Ruth is the wife of L. F. Koester, who is connected with the lumber company above mentioned. Mr. Shade's interest in politics extends no further than to do his full duty as a private citizen.

W. O. COFIELD, a representative of the lime interests of Piqua and a dealer in stone, coal, and cement, with quarters at No. 817 South Main Street, has been a resident of this city for more than twenty years and has been very active in its business affairs. He was born at Casstown, Miami County, Ohio, in 1859, and is a son of Levi Cofield. The father of Mr. Cofield was a lime manufacturer, and during the first six years of the latter's life the family home was near Sulphur Grove, Montgomery County, and after that in Kirkwood, Shelby County. Mr. Cofield thus grew up in the business, and after coming to Piqua, in 1887, he continued in this line and shortly afterward began the manufacture of marble dust, being the pioneer in this industry in this section. Subsequently he sold his plant to the Ohio Marble Company, but he has continued the manufacture of lime and does a large business also in handling lime, cement and all kinds of contractors' supplies.

Ground is now being broken for the erection of a plant for the manufacture of all stone products, from flues for steel furnaces to the finest marble floor, the company to be known as The Stone Product Company, and the works to be under the management of Mr. Cofield. The new company is incorporated for $50,000, the principal stockholders being prominent business men of Findlay and Piqua. The company will control at least three modern crushers for the crushing plant, and for their marble flour department will establish enough machines to give them possibly the largest capacity of any like plant in the country. Several thousand dollars' worth of railroad switch work will be put in and accommodations provided for about forty cars. The main building for the manufacture of marble flour will be 50x200 feet; that of the crushing plant, 55x75 feet. The buildings will be frame, with the exception of the engine-room, which will be of concrete. The quarries cover sixty-five acres and the material is available for many uses. The new concern will be one of the big manufacturing enterprises of Piqua.

As a good citizen Mr. Cofield has never ignored the calls made on his time or purse and has willingly done his part to advance the general welfare. In 1882 he was married to Miss Elizabeth Davis, of Shelby County, Ohio, and they have three children: L. M.; Rowena Elmira, who is the wife of W. R. Snyder, of Troy; and Bonnie Ethel, who resides at home. Mr. Cofield and family are members of the Church of Christ.

GEORGE McCULLOUGH, deceased. In depicting the career of him who is the subject of this sketch, one has not to deal with a life spent in vain strivings after riches or fame—the two principal goals of the ambitious—but rather with a life that was a negation of self, a daily sacrifice to the Lord, and a benediction to all others that came into contact with it, even though but casually.

The late George McCullough came of a hardy family. His paternal grandfather was born in Ireland and learned the trade of tanner in the city of Cork, after which, when still a young man, he came to this country, making his home in a little town just in sight of Philadelphia. This town was destroyed in the Revolutionary War, by the British troops, Grandfather McCullough losing all his property. He had early enlisted on the American side, taking part in the capture of Fort Ticonderoga, under Ethan Allen; then reaching Bunker Hill, near Boston, in time to take part in the memorable battle there; and afterwards serving with Washington when he crossed the Delaware, and in the engagements at Trenton and Princeton, and in the closing operations of the war at Yorktown, where he witnessed the surrender of Lord Cornwallis. He lived many years after the war, and died at the age of eighty-eight, having never been sick a day in his life until then. He was a Free Mason and his funeral services were conducted by members of the order. He married a Miss Mary Elliott, who was of Welsh origin, and their family numbered nine children.

William McCullough, son of the foregoing and father of the subject of this sketch, was the third son of his parents, and was born in Pennsylvania in 1793. He was reared amid pioneer surroundings and, like most of his contemporaries in this section, sought his living in the subduing of the forest and the conquest of the soil. About the year 1813 he married Susan Shidler, a sister of the Hon. Tom Shidler, who represented Miami County in the legislature in 1839. In October, 1823, when George McCullough was six years old, the family came to Ohio, crossing the mountains in wagons, the journey taking several weeks. Reaching Miami County, they settled on a tract of land in Lost Creek Township that has since been known as the McCullough farm. But little of the land was then cleared in this vicinity, wild game of all kind abounded, and panthers and bears were still occasionelly seen. The first residence of the family was a little log cabin, 20x24 feet, and they also erected a small stable, where their little dun mare found shelter. Their food was plain, consisting principally of mush and milk, corn bread, pumpkins and game. The milk was strongly flavored most of the time with the wild onion, upon which the cattle fed. Once a week, on Sundays, the family had coffee, and that was a day that all looked forward to with joyous anticipations.

It was in this stern school of life that George McCullough received his early training, but it was conducive to the upbuilding of a strong and vigorous manhood. The district school which he attended in his boyhood days was taught by Mr. John Hutton and was in a log cabin. Here he was taught reading, writing and arithmetic to the single rule of three. In 1825 the first meetinghouse was built in Lost Creek Township. It was built of logs and was put together at a cost of just $6, which was spent for nails, glass, and sashes for three small windows, the labor being voluntarily contributed by the neighbors. At first a large quilt was used for a door, and the floor consisted entirely of "Mother Earth." The dimensions of this primitive place of worship were 26x30 feet. The first Sunday School in Miami County was organized and taught in this log building soon after its erection, by Thomas Long, the enterprise, however, not being regarded favorably by everybody, as it was not thought the right way to teach the Bible.

Mr. McCullough grew up in this neighborhood and saw it grow into beauty. The log structures that we have herein described he saw change into a commodious brick school house and a handsome country church. When still a lad he helped with his team to build the canal, and came to Troy on horseback to see General Harrison when the latter came with great pomp and show on a canal boat to that little city. In 1851 he went into the general dry goods business with C. R. Quick, at Addison, and so continued until 1860. He was afterwards engaged in the grocery business until he retired from active life.

Mr. McCullough was converted in 1843, under the labors of Mark D. Briney, in the old log meeting-house near the present beautiful brick structure of the Lost Creek Church. His conversion was thorough, comprehending soul and body, time and talents. It has been said of him by one who was ten years his pastor: "From the time of his Spirit-birth he was Spirit-filled, and till death he carried with him that often overflowing measure. Endowed by nature with mind, thought, song, a musical voice, a winning face, fluent, fitting speech and forceful personality, his consecration of these, intensified by a glowing Christian experience, meant much for the church, for the community, for all reforms, for the souls of men, and for his long and grand career as the Lord's servant. No excuse of the sinner or subterfuge of the skeptic could stand before his array of Holy Writ, his burning love for the doubter, and his unique forms of unanswerable arguments. Meeting by accident or introduction with a stranger, he left him not till learning of him whether or not he loved Christ. Nor was this information gained offensively, but in a happy, tactful, winning way. From the time of his conversion he was an active worker for Christ, praying, speaking and exhorting in public, and this with peculiar impressiveness, edification and power." The same writer further says:

"When in his usual health he attended and actively participated in the sessions of the Ohio Miami Conference. On committes he was a wise counsellor; on the floor his speeches were short, terse, and telling in the flavor of sincerity and the flash of earnestness. In exhortation but few preachers were his equal. In prayer he seemed to come very close into the divine presence, pleading with a Jacob-like importunity, and seizing promises with the uncorrupted confidence of a child. It was his delight to pray with the sick, and his more than half a century of praying life built Bethels and altars by most of the sick beds and in most of the woods and fields in the vicinity of his home. Riding to church alone or in company, often did he pause at some suitable place by the wayside to wrestle with God in behalf of the service and the saving of souls. Perhaps I have never known a man who seemed so constantly to dwell in the secret of his presence and in his very pavilion. He carried everywhere the joy of his Christian experience, but never was he happier than in protracted meetings and when souls were being born into the kingdom. He was a persistent Bible student. He drew his theology from the Word, and had a fund of doctrinal and practical quotations at his tongue's end. He was friendly to ministerial education and culture, and believed that these were helpful to the spiritual power, without which all preaching is in vain."

He was an earnest friend of the young minister, whom he aided with his advice. A good student of human nature, he did not often err in forecasting the success or failure of the youthful Timothy. Many thought he himself called to the ministry, but on this subject he once said to his pastor—the same from whom we have already quoted: "Brother Rush, I feel it is mainly my mission to lighten and broaden our people's ideas of lay relations." Mr. McCullough was an ardent reader of religious literature, especially that published by the Christian denomination, to which he belonged, and of which he accumulated a large collection. His brother Peter, of Dayton, was a minister of the denomination—earnest and successful in bringing souls to Christ—and it was Mr. McCullough's belief that his brother sufficiently represented the family in that department of Christian effort, his own ambitions lying solely in the direction of lay usefulness.

Much could be said of his brotherly kindness and helpfulness to his fellow men. Especially was he the friend of the poor. His wagons, his farming utensils or garden tools were freely at the command of his neighbors, especially those who were unable to purchase for themselves, and it was wonderful what amount of wear they were subjected to in the universal service. Everybody's friend, everybody's helper was he. The life of this good man was prolonged far beyond the scriptural three score years and ten, for he passed triumphantly to the Eternal Mansions on Monday, June 30, 1902, at the age of eighty-five years and twenty-five days. Well it might be said of him, "Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord."

His home life was true and beautiful. He was married November 18, 1849, to Amanda S. Warner, of Addison, Champaign County, Ohio, and for more than fifty-two years they pursued life's journey happily together. Until the father's death the family circle remained unbroken. Of its members we may briefly say that Derostus M. McCullough, the eldest son, is now one of the leading citizens and business men of Troy, Ohio, a prominent merchant, vice-president of the Troy National Bank, and an active lay worker in the Christian Church. George McCullough, the younger son and his father's namesake, is a respected resident of Dayton, Ohio. Of the two daughters, Emma is the wife of Dr. H. E. Smith, of Kansas City, Missouri; the other daughter is Mrs. John M. Thomas, whose husband is a successful business man in Columbus, Ohio.

For some years before his death Mr. McCullough was unable to attend church, but his son, D. M. McCullough, put a telephone in his father's house in Addison, the wires reaching to the pulpit and choir seats of the Christian Church in Troy, and being skilfully aranged to catch every sound. Thus, through his son's love, the aged Christian, in his declining years, had the sweet consolation of the services of the sanctuary brought to his very bedside or to his invalid chair, and his hours of weariness and pain were lightened thereby, and his heart made glad by the songs of Zion and the words of gospel cheer, every Sabbath, though the songs were sung and the Word preached ten miles away.

Mr. McCullough was survived by his wife, in addition to the children above mentioned. She was ever his faithful and well suited help-mate, sharing his joys and sorrows with a kind womanly sympathy and love. She, too, commanded the love of her children and of a wide circle of friends. Mrs. McCullough died May 24, 1905, aged seventy-five years.

CHARLES M. FINFROCK, president of the Stillwater Valley Bank Company of Covington, Ohio, was one of the founders of that institution and has been closely identified with other interests of the city during his residence of a quarter of a century or more there. He has been agent for the Pennsylvania Railroad and of the Adams Express Company at Covington since May 1, 1883, and has been in the employ of the former company since 1872. Mr. Finfrock was born in Piqua, Ohio, May 24, 1850, and is a son of William and Mary Ann (Routson) Finfrock. His father, who died in 1882, was for a time proprietor of the Miami House at Piqua and later conducted a mercantile establishment in that city.

Charles M. Finfrock was six years of age when his mother died. Two years later he became an inmate of the home of an uncle, Jacob Reesor, at Versailles, Ohio, by whom he was reared until fourteen years old. He then went to work on a farm for Samuel Fetters in Newberry Township, Miami County, with whom he continued for five years. He next worked at carpentering, following that trade several years in Newberry Township and in Piqua. In that city he worked for O'Ferrell & Daniels, manufacturers of threshing machines, and later for Hardesty & Speelman at house carpentering. During this time he also worked in the Western Union Telegraph office at night, under C. E. Macher, who still is in Piqua, and from there went to Richmond, Indiana, as messenger in the train dispatcher's office; that was in 1872 and it was his first position with the company. In February, 1873, he became night operator for the Pennsylvania Company at Greenfield, Indiana, and from there went to Knightstown, Indiana, where he was operator and agent's clerk. In 1874 he was made operator and agent's clerk at Piqua, where he continued two or three years, then went to New Paris, Preble County, Ohio, as agent of the Pennsylvania Railroad. In May, 1883, he became agent of the Pennsylvania Company and the Adams Express Company, at Covington, in which capacity he has since continued. A man of exemplary habits and a conscientious employee, his advancement in the business world was steady and he now takes rank among the substantial men of the place. When the Stillwater Valley Bank was incorporated in 1900, he was one of the prime movers and became a stockholder and director. In January, 1909, he was advanced to the presidency of that institution.

Charles M. Finfrock was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Cable, daughter of the late John Cable, of Newberry Township, and they have one son, Clarence M. The last named is a lawyer by professional training and an instructor in Western Reserve Law School, of Cleveland, of which institution he is a graduate. He also is a graduate of Covington High School and Ohio Wesleyan University, at Delaware. Religiously the subject of this record is a member of the Christian Church, of which he is one of the deacons.

HENRY FREE, one of Staunton Township's representative citizens and substantial farmers, resides on his well improved estate of eighty acres, which he owns jointly with his wife. Mr. Free was born on the old Knoop farm in Staunton Township, Miami County, on which his parents first settled after coming to Ohio, August

26, 1844, and is a son of Philip and Sarah (Helsel) Free.

The father of Mr. Free was born in France and was twenty years of age when he accompanied his parents to America, settling in Pennsylvania. There he married Sarah Helsel and there were ten children born to them, namely: George, who is deceased; Jacob, who lives in California; Barbara, now deceased, who was the wife of G. Struble; Daniel, who is deceased; Caroline, who is the wife of Henry McDowell, of Casstown; Elizabeth, who is the wife of S. Ferr, of Indiana; Philip, who died young; Lavina, now deceased, who was the wife of M. Small, also deceased; John, who died while serving his country in the Civil War; and Henry. With his wife and four children, Philip Free came to Ohio, and both he and wife passed the rest of their days in this State. Their first home was on the Knoop farm, on Lost Creek, which Philip Free rented for a number of years. Later he purchased a farm of 100 acres not far from the farm now owned by his youngest son, and there he died in 1877, when aged seventy-eight years. On that farm his first wife died, and he married Nancy Konkel, who survived him but a few years. Although he encountered much misfortune and had a great deal of sickness in his family, which entailed much expense, he had good children, and with the help of his sons cleared up his farm, acquired other property, and at the time of the Civil War not only gave one son, but contributed some $500 in money to aid in its prosecution.

Henry Free was the youngest of the family and was an infant when his parents moved to the farm near his own. He has been a continuous resident of Staunton Township, with the exception of eleven months, when he lived in Brown Township, and during the periods covered by several trips to California, Oregon and Washington. He had but meager educational opportunities in his youth, but travel, reading and association with many people have all contributed to making him one of the best informed men of his section. He lived at home until his marriage, after which he engaged in farming for his father-in-law for thirty-six years. In 1905 he bought his present farm from Mrs. John Cavault, a sister of his wife, residing in Mercer County, Ohio. It is a productive tract of land and lies in Staunton Township, where the Troy, the Spring Creek and Peterson Turnpikes corner.

On September 6, 1866, Mr. Free was married to Miss Margaret Ann Smalley, who is a daughter of John and Sarah (Cullen) Smalley, the former of whom was born in Butler County, Ohio, and the latter in Pennsylvania. Mrs. Free had two sisters: Mary Ellen, who married John Cavault, and Eliza Jane, who died young. Mr. and Mrs. Free have had four children, namely: John, who married Martha Marr, has three children—Murray, Bertha, and Everett—and is a farmer in Spring Creek Township;Flora, who married Bert Cavault, of Piqua, and has four children —Blanche, Iva, Ralph and Margaret; Charles, who married May Denman, now deceased, and had three children—Elden, Arthur and Opal, the youngest deceased and the other two living with their grandparents; and Harry Allen, who died aged six years. Mr. and Mrs. Free are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is an official. He is a Republican and has served as township supervisor for many years.

MARTIN A. CURTIS, residing on Boone Hill, two and one-half miles south of Troy, in Concord Township, along the interurban electric railway, is the owner of a fine farm of ninety acres and follows general farming. He was born on the home farm in that vicinity, on Easter Sunday, April 5, 1856, and is a son of William and Anna (Fiese) Curtis, and grandson of Hiram Curtis. The grandfather came from the east and settled near Fredericktown, Miami County, when the country was in a wild and undeveloped state. He lived there until his death.

William Curtis was among the younger of a large family of children, and was born near Fredericktown. He helped clear the place, and while still a young man started out for himself; he started without means or assistance, but was always a hard worker and his success was beyond the average. After his marriage he farmed for a few years on shares, and then bought what at present is the Mrs. DeWeese farm, in Concord Township. He lived on this place until his death, in 1904, at the age of eighty years, he surviving his wife some years. His marriage to Anna Fiese, who also was born near Fredericktown, resulted in the following issue: Sarah, deceased; Mary Jane; Francis; Davis W., deceased; Martin A.; Ellwood; Peter, deceased; Lydia; Belle; Minnie; Burnet; and Charles.

Martin A. Curtis attended school in District No. 2, Concord Township, but his schooling was very limited, as there was a big family of them and a farm to pay for, all of the boys being required to work on the place. He began work very young, and frequently after working hard in the field all day would accompany his father to the old stillhouse with a load of cord wood. He cut wood and split rails on the place he now owns for Isaac Boone, who afterward became his father-in-law. After his marriage in 1877 he farmed the Thomas Sheets place, on the opposite side of the road from his present place, on the shares, and continued there for a period of nineteen years. He then bought his farm of ninety acres from the Boone heirs and has since lived upon it.

January 4, 1877, Mr. Curtis was united in marriage with Miss Melinda E. Boone, a daughter of Isaac and Mary Ann (Holderman) Boone, and they are parents of two children: John, who lives near his parents and farms the home place; and William E., who lives at home. John Curtis married Gussie Robbins, and they have two children, Mary and Edgar. Fraternally Martin A. Curtis is a member of Troy Lodge, No. 43, K. of G. E.; and Troy Lodge, No. 222, I. O. R. M.

MARTIN L. GANTZ, who resides on his farm of eighty-eight acres, situated in Section 2, Bethel Township, was born January 8, 1855, in Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Martin and Lydia Ann (Heffner) Gantz.

The parents of Mr. Gantz had a family of ten children, named, respectively: Harriet, Margaret, Perry, Martin, Thomas, Eliza, Minnie, Ezra, George and Laura. Martin Gantz was a blacksmith and he learned his trade at Brandt and worked there all his active life. He was a Democrat in politics, but took no active part in public matters.

Martin L. Gantz attended school at Brandt and then learned the blacksmith's trade under his father and worked at it until his first marriage, in 1877, after which he resided one and a quarter miles west of Brandt, where he was engaged in the business of raising trees for the Alabaugh Nursery Company. In March, 1907, he came to his present farm, which he purchased of the Black heirs. He found sufficient and substantial buildings on the place, with the exception of a barn, which he immediately put up, and he has done other improving. Mr. Gantz has proved himself as good a farmer as he was long known to be blacksmith, and he has frequently found it to advantage to understand both industries.

On December 5, 1877, Mr. Gantz was married to Miss Margaret Weaver, who died in March, 1900. She was a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Wright) Weaver. To this union the following children were born: Vesta, who married Bessie, daughter of Thomas Forrest; Richard, who married Ethel, daughter of Duke Beneham; Della, who married Clinton Hendricks; Clyde, who married Effie, daughter of Charles Harris; Glenna, who resides at Dayton; Hershel, who goes to school; and Elmer, who died in infancy. On December 10, 1902, Mr. Gantz was married (second) to Miss Laura Belle Young, who is a daughter of John Young. Mr. Gantz and family attend the Lutheran Church. In politics he is a Democrat.

FRANK A. CUSHWA, one of Bethel Township's substantial citizens and large farmers, owning 300 acres of valuable land in this section, was born in Washington County, Maryland, October 20, 1832, and is a son of Benjamin and Sophia (Angle) Cushwa.

The parents of Mr. Cushwa were both natives of Washington County, Maryland, and when they came to Ohio they had four children. Benjamin Cushwa settled first on a farm of 160 acres on the Clifton Turnpike, near Springfield, in Clark County, where he built a house, but finding that the land would require a great amount of fertilizing to make farming profitable, he moved to Harshmansville for three years, and then came to Bethel Township, Miami County, where he first bought fifty acres and then added twenty-five more. Both he and wife spent the remainder of their days on that farm, he dying in 1871 and she when aged sixty-eight years; both were buried in Bethel Cemetery. They were worthy members of the German Reformed Church. In politics he was a strong Democrat, but no persuasion would have induced him to accept any public office. Of his family of eleven children, the following survive: Katherine, George W., Martin B., Frank A., John, Mary Elizabeth, James, Anna and David.

Frank A. Cushwa attended school in Bethel Township, mainly at West Charleston, and from boyhood assisted his father on the farm. Subsequently he bought the home place of seventy-five acres and purchased 225 adjoining acres, making his whole estate a large and valuable one. He has all his land cleared with the exception of eighty acres still in timber, has two dwelling houses on his property and helped to put up all the buildings. He cleared about ninety acres by himself, and has put down a large amount of tiling, making his land well drained and capable of producing almost any crop. Mr. Cushwa attends the Brethren Church of Bethel Township. He is a Democrat in his political views. A pleasant country road runs from Tippecanoe City, some three and one-half miles south to Mr. Cushwa's property.

OGDEN EDWARDS, of the firm of Edwards Brothers, dealers in grain, seed, flour and feed, at No. 301 East Main Street, Troy, has been identified with Troy interests since 1890 and is numbered with the representative citizens. He was born in 1860, at Youngstown, Ohio, where he was educated.

Prior to coming to Troy, Mr. Edwards was engaged in farming and stock raising in Mahoning County. In partnership with his brother, Allen Edwards, he established the grain firm of Edwards Brothers, at Troy, in 1890, and in the spring of 1891 started making flour. In the spring of 1893 they purchased their present location. They own an onion farm at McGuffy, Ohio, where, in 1908, they raised 100,000 bushels of onions, in addition to potatoes, corn and other vegetables. The firm does a large and constantly increasing business. Mr. Edwards owns stock in a number of other successful enterprises.

In 1893 Mr. Edwards was married to Miss Kate King, of Warren, Ohio, and they have three sons: Jonathan O. E., King and Frederick A. Mr. Edwards takes a hearty interest in all that pertains to the general welfare of the city, but he has never sought political honors. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and he belongs to the Troy Club.

ADAM DENNISON WEAVER, M. D., who for fifty-seven years was actively engaged in the practice of medicine and for many years was senior partner of the drug firm of Weaver & Kendell, at Covington, at the time of his death, on January 10, 1908, was the oldest practicing physican in Miami County. Dr. Weaver was born October 31, 1822, in Augusta County, Virginia, and was a son of George and Jane (Moffet) Weaver.

The parents of Dr. Weaver came to Montgomery County, Ohio, in 1823, and on that pioneer farm, ten miles west of Dayton, and situated on the banks of Wolf Creek, the ambitious boy grew to manhood. His educational opportunities up to that time had been more or less limited, but from childhood he had cherished the desire to become a physician. He then made his way to Canton, Illinois, where he read medicine under Dr. H. Martin, with whom he remained until 1847, having many hardships to overcome in pursuing his medical studies. He completed his reading under Dr. C. Gish, at Salem, Ohio, and in 1849 managed to accumulate enough capital to enable him to attend medical lectures at Cleveland. Thus fortified, in the spring of 1850 he began practice with Dr. Gish and continued with the older physician for two years. He then came to Miami County, in 1852, locating at North Clayton, where he practiced until 1863, when he settled permanently at Covington. For ten years he was associated in practice with Dr. R. E. Cable, after which he was alone. Few medical men had more trying experiences than had the late Dr. Weaver and few retained their mental capacity, professional skill and physical health into advanced age as did Dr. Weaver. In encouraging younger physicians he very often told them of the hardships he had faced in the days of his early practice, when the only possible way to get over the country was on horseback, a large portion of the land being yet uncleared, and many of the streams unbridged. On many occasions he had been obliged to swim with his sturdy little pony through seven streams in order to reach his patients; on others he had been compelled to tie his horse and take his saddle bags containing medicine and surgical intruments under his arm and push his way through mud and ice on foot; and there were times when, lost in the woods, he had to await daylight in order to go on his way. Naturally, Dr. Weaver thought lightly of the situations which some of his younger contemporaries believed serious obstacles. Dr. Weaver was eighty-five years of age when, after a call upon a patient and his return to his office, apparently in his usual health, he was found reclining lifeless in his armchair. This was just as he would have desired, a quiet passing after a life of intense usefulness, with all his powers undimmed. His loss was deeply felt, for he had been physician, friend and counsellor to so many for so long a period.

Dr. Weaver is survived by his widow and other relatives. He was married July 30, 1856, to Miss Barbara Whitmer, who was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and was three years of age when brought to Miami County, Ohio, by her parents, who were Samuel and Barbara (Brubaker) Whitmer. To Dr. and Mrs. Weaver were born two children, a son and a daughter, namely: Isaac Newton, who died a victim of diphtheria when aged four years; and Amrina Jane, who is the wife of H. W. B. Routson, of Covington. Mr. and Mrs. Routson have three children—Paul Weaver, Ruth and Martha Belle. The eldest grandchild of Mrs. Weaver, Paul Weaver Routson, married Miss Hettie Bachman, who was born at Piqua, Ohio, and they have one son, who bears the name of his grandfather, Henry Ward Beecher Routson. Ruth resides at home. Martha Belle is the wife of Lester Lee Falknor, a farmer, of Newberry Township.

In 1866 the late Dr. Weaver united with the Christian Church and up to the time of his demise was active in its work and liberal in its support. On many occasions both professional and political offices were tendered Dr. Weaver, but none of these ever appealed to him, the good he could do in his private practice and its reasonable emoluments satisfying his ambition. He will long be remembered.

JACOB HENNE, a prominent citizen and business man of Troy, Ohio, is proprietor of the Troy brewery, which for many years has been conducted under the firm name of Joseph Henne & Son, and is also manager of the Troy Ice Company. He has all his life lived in Troy and was born in this city July 10, 1861, son of Joseph and Mary (Long) Henne.

Joseph Henne, father of Jacob, was born in Germany, and when about eighteen years of age crossed the Atlantic to the United States. He took up his residence in Troy, Ohio, where he was engaged in the retail shoe business until 1874. He then purchased of Titus Schwind an interest in the Troy brewery, and in partnership with a Mr. Mayer, under the firm name of Henne & Mayer, carried on the business for a number of years. He then purchased the interest of his partner and continued to operate the plant alone until 1884, in which year he deeded a half-interest in the establishment to his son Jacob. The firm name was changed to Joseph Henne & Son, and although Jacob Henne became sole owner and proprietor in 1895, the business is still carried on under the old title. Joseph Henne departed this life December 28, 1890. He was an able and public spirited man and his death was mourned as a distinct loss to the community.

Jacob Henne was reared in Troy and received his educational training in the public schools. At an early age he entered the brewery and soon mastered all the details of the business. He has made many improvements in the property, not only increasing the capacity of the plant, but raising the standard of excellence in the product as well. The brewery enjoys an extensive patronage throughout this section of the State and is kept running at its full capacity of 5,000 barrels per annum. Mr. Henne has been a director of the Troy National Bank since 1890 and, as already stated, is also manager of the Troy Ice Company, which has a large and thriving business.

Mr. Henne has always been an enthusiastic Democrat, and in April, 1891, was elected on the ticket of that party as councilman from the Fourth Ward, serving two years in that capacity. In April, 1899, he was elected waterworks trustee for a term of three years. Fraternally he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Elks, and Eagles. He is one of the substantial business men of Troy, and enjoys great popularity among his fellow citizens.

ENO WILHELM, who comes of an old Miami County family, is a resident of Concord Township and is the owner of 100 acres of land, sixty of which are embraced in the farm on which he lives, located on the North Township Pike, six miles northwest of Troy. The other forty acres is located in Washington Township and is the tract on which his grandfather located upon his arrival from Pennsylvania. Mr. Wilhelm was born in the old log house which stood on the home place in Washington Township, July 31, 1859, and is a son of Percival and Nancy (Stewart) Wilhelm.

Percival Wilhelm was born in Pennsylvania and was of German parentage. He was very young when he accompanied his family to Miami County, Ohio, and settled on the farm in Washington Township. He lived on that place many years, then purchased 120 acres where his son Eno now lives, and lived there until his death, in 1883, at the age of fifty-six years. He married Nancy Stewart, whom he survived some years, and the following were their children: Eno; Mina, deceased; Henry; and Emeline, wife of Harvey Winrick.

Eno Wilhelm was just a boy when his family moved from the old home in Washington Township to the place he now lives. He received a meagre educational training, as he was the eldest of the children and his services were needed on the farm as soon as he was able to work. He helped clear the farm, which was heavily timbered, and as the fields were full of stumps for many years, the work of plowing and cultivating was more difficult than it has been in recent times. He has always farmed in a general way and takes rank among the successful men of the community. His home farm was obtained from his father's estate, and the other forty acres was purchased by him from Julian Whittiker.

January 24, 1884, Mr. Wilhelm was united in marriage with Miss Nancy Bard, a daughter of Rockwell Bard, and they have the following children: Mary, who married William Longendelpher and has two children, Nora E. and Lester; Nora, who married Burt Favorite and has one son, Leonard; Edith; Carl; and Orrie. The family belong to the Christian Church. Mr. Wilhelm is a Democrat in his political views.

LOUIS SHERMAN, a well known resident of Concord Township, Miami County, Ohio, is the owner of a farm of fifty acres located about three-fourths of a mile northwest of Troy, on the Piqua Pike. He He was born in McClain Township, Shelby County, Ohio, May 25, 1851, and is a son of Henry and Catherine (Ernst) Sherman.

Joseph Sherman, grandfather of the subject of this record, was a native of Germany, in which country he lived many years after his marriage. He came with his family to the United States in 1835, and made the trip from Baltimore, Maryland, to Shelby County, Ohio, in wagons. He settled in the woods near Loramie, that being before the town of Berlin was started. With the assistance of his sons he cleared the farm and continued farming there until his death. He had three sons to grow to maturity, all now deceased, namely: Joseph, Henry and William.

Henry Sherman was born and reared in Germany, and was a lad of seventeen years when he came with his parents to the United States. The most of the work of clearing the home farm in Shelby County fell upon his shoulders, and it continued to be his home until his death, in 1904, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. He engaged in teaching school for twenty-five years and saw that his sons were all provided with good educational training. In the early days he helped to build the canal through this section of the State. He married Catherine Ernst, who was born in Germany and who died in January, 1908, at the age of eighty years. They became parents of three children: John J., who is one of the commissioners of Shelby County; Louis; and Adolph, who is serving as justice of the peace in Shelby County, an office his father filled before him for a period of eighteen years.

Louis Sherman was born in the old one-room log house which stood on the old homestead in Shelby County, and there grew to manhood. He attended the old log schoolhouse in that district and lived at home until his marriage. He then located upon a farm of eighty acres in Shelby County, which he received from his father, and lived upon it until 1895, when he moved to Troy. In his younger days he operated a threshing outfit, and after moving to Troy he held a position as stationary engineer with the Hobart Electric Manufacturing Company for six years. He then conducted a coal yard on Walnut Street, on the Big Four Railroad, for three years, at the end of which time he sold out to Burt Nicol. In a short time he bought his present farm of fifty acres from Dr. Sterrett and has since followed general farming. He has a fine and large brick home of nine rooms, in keeping with which are the other improvements on the place.

Mr. Sherman started a postoffice at St. Patrick, in Shelby County, under appointment of President Cleveland, but after nine months resigned the office owing to his removal to Troy. He is a stanch Democrat in politics, and an enthusiastic worker for party success. In Shelby County he filled various township offices in a very efficient manner.

In April, 1877, Mr. Sherman was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Gudenkuff, of Auglaize County, Ohio; she died five years later, without issue. He formed a second marital union in April, 1883, with Miss Lucy Kirch, a daughter of John Kirch, who was a pioneer of Miami County and later of Shelby County. The following offspring were born to them: Emma, who married William Depweg, of Dayton, and has a son, Irving; Adolph; Albert; Christopher; Matilda; and Lena, who died at the age of sixteen years. Religiously the family is Catholic and belongs to St. Patrick's Church at Troy.

H. F. DOUGLASS, who has been a resident of Troy, Ohio, since 1882, is president of the Troy Carriage Sunshade Company and was one of the founders of the plant. He was born in New York State, where he lived until his removal to Ohio.

Mr. Douglass first engaged in the coal business in this city and continued until 1889, when, with Mr. A. G. Stouder, he founded the manufacturing plant of which he is now the head. They began business in a small way, occupying a little room over a cigar factory on South Market Street; but with faith in their enterprise and a close application to business, they made steady progress. They moved from their original quarters to the northeast corner of the public square, and in 1892 began the erection of their first factory building. The main plant now consists of two four-story brick buildings, 50x100 feet, and in another part of the city the company has a third building of equal size. It is one of the important industrial concerns of the city, and has about 150 employees on its pay roll. Mr. Douglass is a man of unusual ability and takes high rank among the business men of Troy.

J. FRANK ANDERSON, one of Piqua's representative citizens and longtime residents, is superintendent of the American Strawboard plant, with which industry he has been identified for about twenty-eight years. He was born at Piqua, Ohio, in 1851, and is a son of Robert Anderson.

The late Robert Anderson was a well known citizen of Miami County. He was born in Kentucky and came to this section of Ohio in 1848, where he continued to live until his death, which occurred in 1905. He followed an agricultural life, took an active interest in politics and public matters, particularly those concerning his county, and for a long time held the office of superintendent of turnpikes.

J. Frank Anderson spent all the earlier part of his life on the home farm, but when the American Strawboard plant was established at Piqua, in 1881, he became an employe, and through faithful service, fidelity and natural adaptation, was advanced until, in 1899, he was made superintendent, a position he has effectively filled until the present time.

In 1883 Mr. Anderson was married to Miss Ange L. Blood, who was born in Miami County, and is a daughter of Jerre

JAMES M. CAVEN

MRS. ANNETTIE S. CAVEN

Blood. Mrs. Anderson is a member of the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Anderson takes no very active interest in politics, but for a number of years he has been identified with the Odd Fellows.

JAMES M. CAVEN, deceased. The death of James M. Caven, which occurred July 28, 1908, removed from Brown Township one of its most esteemed citizens and substantial men. He was a member of a prominent pioneer family of Miami County, Ohio, and was born on the old Caven homestead, situated one and one-quarter miles northwest of Fletcher.

Until he was eighteen years of age, James M. Caven remained on the home farm and obtained his knowledge of books in the Brown Township schools. He then went to Illinois and from there, in 1864, to Idaho, where he remained for four years and then came back to the homestead. He cared for his aged mother until her death, after which he sold his share of the old farm to a brother, subsequently acquiring the large amount of valuable property which made him one of the men of capital in this section of the state. At the time of his death his 500 acres of land were distributed in Orange Township, Shelby County; in Green Township, Shelby County, and in Brown Township, Miami County. His business had always been farming and stockraising and his good judgment and practical methods had made him successful in all his ventures.

James M. Caven married Annettie Sayers, who is a daughter of Samuel and Jane Sayers, the former of whom was born in Brown Township, Miami County, of which his father was also a native, and the latter of Virginia. To Mr. and Mrs. Caven five children were born, namely: William, who married Margaret Cavault, has three sons —Foster Irwin, Franklin Clay and William Garner; James S., who married Viola Sims, has two children, Marvel Floss and Grace Annis, but lost his young wife on December 21, 1908; Harley Ward, who married Lottie Fergus, has two children, Francis Sayers and Vertis Valentine; Bertha, who married Charles Wyatt; and Samuel, who died when aged fourteen years. Mr. Caven was a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church, to which his widow also belongs. She maintains her home in Fletcher, residing on Main Street, having rented her farms to her sons. In his political sentiments, Mr. Caven was identified with the Democratic party. He was a man of enlightened views and was in every way qualified for public office but his tastes did not lie in that direction. He was a most worthy citizen and through his long and useful life his influence was always directed to the encouragement of law, order and right living.

HENRY ZOLLINGER, a prominent retired farmer of Miami County, residing at Covington, still retains his two valuable farms, one containing 125 acres, which is situated in Newton Township, and the other of 116 acres, lying in Newberry Township, and has both of them operated by capable tenants. Mr. Zollinger was born in Perry County, Ohio, October 25, 1847, and is a son of Jacob and Margaret (Lindville) Zollinger. Jacob Zollinger came of German parentage, but he was born in Perry County, Ohio, to which section his father, Lewis Zollinger, had come from Pennsylvania, at an early day. Jacob

Zollinger and family moved from Perry to Fairfield County, Ohio, when Henry was small, and that continued to be the family homestead.

Henry Zollinger grew to manhood in Fairfield County, attending the district schools and assisting his father on the farm. In 1875 he was married to Miss Amanda Zartman, who was born and reared in Perry County, a daughter of Simon and Martha (Meckling) Zartman. Immediately after marriage they came to Miami County and settled on the farm of 125 acres which Mr. Zollinger bought in Newton Township, the purchase of the second farm taking place at a later date. There Mr. Zollinger engaged in general farming and stock raising until January 1, 1908, when he retired to Covington. Both farms are well improved, Mr. Zollinger having excellent buildings on each and living in great comfort on the Newton Township place for more than thirty years.

Mr. and Mrs. Zollinger have four children, namely: Harry, who is an engineer on the Pan Handle Railroad, married Flora Awker, and they have two children —Claude and Ruth; Mattie, the wife of Roy McCoole, who resides on Mr. Zollinger's Newton Township farm, and has one child, Herbert; Mary, who is the wife of Robert Holbrook, a chemist, of Chicago Heights, Illinois; and Emma, who lives with her parents. Mr. Zollinger and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is one of the directors of the Stillwater Valley Banking Company.

S. D. HARTMAN, M. D., who has been successfully engaged in the practice of medicine at Tippecanoe City for the past thirty-six years, occupies a very prominent position in his profession in Miami County. He was born in this city August 14, 1846, and is a son of Dr. A. B. and Delilah (Campbell) Hartman.

Dr. Hartman's father was a native of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and of German parentage. He was twice married, one child surviving his first wife. He married (second) Delilah Campbell, a most capable woman, and her eight children inherited many of her natural gifts. Dr. and Mrs. A. B. Hartman came to Ohio and located at Tippecanoe City, then a mere village, in 1837.

S. D. Hartman obtained his education in the schools of his native place. It is probable that from boyhood he cherished the hope of a medical career, but before doing more than desultory reading along the lines of his future profession, he had acquired a practical knowledge of milling and later of telegraphy. During a period of twenty months, when he was employed as operator in the telegraph office at Troy, he earned sufficient funds to enable him to take the winter course of medical lectures at Ann Arbor, Michigan, in 1869-'70. Upon his return he continued his studies under his father, to whom he rendered office assistance, and in September, 1871, he returned to Ann Arbor and completed his course. From March to September, 1865, Dr. Hartman served in the Federal army during the Civil War as a member of the One Hundred and Ninety-sixth Regiment, O. V. I.

Dr. Hartman is widely known and his record has been such as to give his fellow citizens confidence in his skill as a physician and in his character as a man. He is a member of all the local medical organizations, keeps in close touch with the progress of his profession, and makes use of all advanced methods of treatment that have stood practical tests. In 1875 he was married to Miss Laura Byrkett. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and belongs fraternally to the Masons and Odd Fellows.

CHARLES H. McCULLOUGH, who resides upon a farm of sixty-four acres in the outskirts of Troy, in Concord Township, established a dairy business on February 8, 1869, and during the more than forty years which have since elapsed his wagon has not missed a single day in covering the route. He and his five sons have successively run the wagon, and the business is now in charge of H. A. McCullough.

Charles H. McCullough was born on what is known as the old Cosley place, in Troy, August 2, 1835, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Ayers) McCullough. His grandfather, Alexander McCullough, came to Miami County from Kentucky at a very early date and became an extensive land owner. He entered land upon a part of which Troy is located, and in Concord Township, obtaining title from the Government. He survived his wife some years and died at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. They had the following children grow to maturity: John, Margaret, Nancy, Polly, Isabella, and Lucilla.

John McCullough, father of the subject of this record, spent most of his life in Miami County. He lived at home and farmed until his marriage, and thereafter engaged in the brick and stone business. Some time after the death of his wife at Troy, he moved to Logansport, Indiana, where the declining years of his life were spent. He died there at the age of seventy years. His wife's maiden name was Elizabeth Ayers, and she was a native of Maryland. They had the following children: Charles Henry; Augusta, deceased; Elizabeth, of Logansport, Indiana; Julia; John, deceased; Emma, who died young; and Mary, who also died young.

Charles Henry McCullough spent his boyhood days in Troy and attended the primitive school of that period. He has witnessed a wonderful change in conditions in that city, and recalls interestingly the advent of the railroad and the first use of telegraphy there. He knew the first man buried in each of the cemeteries, one of them, Elisha Harker, being a neighbor. In his early manhood he worked for five years at the tinner's trade, but after his marriage, he and his brother-in-law, Murray Telford, went and worked the farm of his father-in-law, James Telford, in Concord Township, the latter being then deceased. He later bought the farm on which he now lives from James Ward, it formerly being known as the John G. Telford farm. As above related, he embarked in the dairy business in 1869, and later took his sons into the partnership. He has always been an energetic and industrious worker and has met with unvarying success.

October 10, 1861, Mr. McCullough was married to Nancy Telford, a daughter of James Telford, now deceased. Her father was born in Kentucky and was fourteen years old when he came to Miami County, Ohio, with his father, Alexander Telford (deceased), and the other members of the family. After locating a short time in Dayton, Alexander entered a large tract of land in Concord Township and lived there the remainedr of his life. He and his wife had the following children: John, Andrew, James, Finley, Mary, Nancy, and Jane. James Telford, father of Mrs. McCullough, helped to clear the home farm in Concord Township, and later came into possession of a part of the estate. He died on that place at the age of fifty-five years, and the house he occupied so many years is still standing. He married Mary Murray, who died at the age of forty-eight years, and they had seven children: Alexander, Murray, Elizabeth, Howe, Mary Ann, Nancy, who was born on the home farm, July 25, 1837, and is the only member of the family now living, and Hugh.

Charles H. and Nancy Telford McCullough became the parents of five sons, as follows: Eugene T., deceased; Heber A., of Troy; Walter G., a graduate of the University of Michigan and at the present time engaged in the capacity of a private secretary at Washington, D. C.; George McCullough, M. D., who graduated from the Cincinnati Medical College and is in practice at Troy; and Frank McCullough, D. D. S., who practices dentistry in association with Dr. Jones, of Troy. The last named was married to Miss Bessie McKnight. Dr. George McCullough married Miss Jessie Vonbeseler. In 1864 Charles H. McCullough enlisted as a member of Company H, One Hundred and Forty-seventh Regiment, O. V. I., under Captain Kelley, for one hundred days' service and was stationed at Fort Marcy, near Washington. At the close of the war he returned to Miami County. He is a member of Coleman Post, G. A. R., at Troy. He is a Republican in politics. Religiously he and his wife are devout members of the First Presbyterian Church at Troy, of which he is a deacon.

A. B. FRAME, M. D., one of Piqua's skilled physicians and surgeons, who has been in active practice here since 1887, is also on honored veteran of the Civil War. He was born in 1840, in Athens County, Ohio, and he was primarily educated there and subsequently took a course at Marietta College. In 1862 Dr. Frame went into the army, having been mainly instrumental in raising Company I, 116th O. Vol. Inf., of which he was made second lieutenant, five months later becoming first lieutenant. Eighteen months after that he was commissioned captain and served in that capacity until the close of the war, participating in the whole Shenandoah Valley campaign. He was honorably discharged in the fall of 1865. After his military service was over he entered upon the study of medicine, and in 1868 was graduated with his degree from the Medical College of Ohio, at Cincinnati. He located at Athens, Athens County, and continued to practice there until he came to Piqua in 1887, where, in addition to attending to a large general practice, he is retained as surgeon of the C., H. & D. Railroad. He is affiliated with the Miami County and Ohio State Medical Societies and the American Medical Association.

In December, 1868, Dr. Frame was married to Miss Mary Elizabeth Morris, of Athens, Ohio, and they have one daughter, Mary, who is the wife of J. D. Kennedy, a well known attorney, of Detroit, Michigan. Dr. Frame is identified with the Masonic fraternity and belongs to the Loyal Legion and the Grand Army of the Republic and to the Piqua Club.

DORSEY WARD JAY, a leading citizen of Monroe Township, a member of the School Board for a number of years and at present also serving as township assessor, resides on his valuable farm of sixty acres, which lies on the Frederick and Gingham Turnpike Road and adjoins Frederick. He was born on this farm, September 6, 1861, and is a son of William and Esther (Furnas) Jay.

The Jay family was established in Miami County by the grandfather, Denny Jay, who came to this neighborhood from South Carolina. He was one of the early settlers and lived here until over seventy years of age, dying in 1867. He lived to see many changes and often told his children of the hardships and disadvantages of the early days in this section. He frequently hauled his produce as far as Cincinnati in order to find a market. The Jay family originally were Quakers but later became united with the Christian Church and now almost all of the name are members of this religious body. The six children of Denny Jay were: Isaac, deceased; Thomas, deceased, who was a Quaker preacher; Mary, now deceased; William, father of Dorsey W.; Eli, who is an educator at Richmond, Indiana; and Levi, who is now deceased.

William Jay was born in Miami County, Ohio, in 1823. His early life was spent in assisting his father clear up the pioneer farm, but his educational necessities were not neglected and he was sent to Antioch College and also to Oberlin University. He then engaged in teaching school and subsequently served as superintendent of the Milton public schools for three years. In association with his brother Eli, he built the first school building at Frederick. He became a minister in the Christian Church and served as such for many years and was instrumental in raising enough money to build the church at Frederick, in 1878. His death occurred on his farm when he was aged fifty-eight years, in 1881. He married Esther Furnas, a daughter of John Furnas, also a pioneer settler in this section, from South Carolina. She died in January, 1899, when aged seventy-five years. They had four children, namely: Emma, who married James Leopard, of Frederick; Horace; Estella, who died in infancy; and Dorsey Ward.

Following the death of his mother, Dorsey Ward Jay purchased the homestead farm, on which, with the exception of three years and during his absences while attending school, he has passed all his life. In boyhood he was entered as a pupil in a select school and later attended the public schools of Milton, going from there to the Covington High School and then spent some time at Earlham College, at Richmond, Indiana. In 1882 he embarked in a general store business at Frederick, which he continued until 1888, and then returned to the farm. He carries on a general farming line and devotes eight acres to tobacco growing.

During his period of residence at Frederick, Mr. Jay was married to Miss Belle Shearer, who is a daughter of Henry and Lina (Hurley) Shearer. Henry Shearer died in 1897, aged seventy-two years. His widow died May, 1909, in her seventy-eighth year. They had five children: Theodore H., Mary C., Ira, Elizabeth and Belle. Mr. and Mrs. Jay have one son, Harry, who married Hazel Barnes. In politics, Mr. Jay is a stanch Republican. He has served as township assessor for the past six years and has long been a member of the School Board, a part of the time being its clerk. He is a Knight of Pythias, belonging to lodge No. 238, at West Milton.

PETER F. EAGLE, M. D., one of the leading medical practitioners of the city of Troy, was born near the city of Dayton, Ohio, May 2, 1850, son of David and Eliza (Reedy) Eagle. His father was for many years a prosperous farmer of Montgomery County, where he died in 1894, being followed to the grave by his wife a year later.

The subject of this sketch was reared on the parental homestead and laid the foundation of his education in the district schools, where he proved himself a bright pupil. In 1873 he became a student at Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri, where he remained for a year, afterwards taking up the study of medicine in the St. Louis Medical College, where he matriculated January 1, 1874. He was graduated from that institution in March, 1878, and on June 3d of that year he opened on office for the practice of his profession in Troy. He has since remained a resident of this city and is numbered among its ablest professional men, having built up a large and lucrative practice. In politics he is a Democrat and takes an intelligent interest in all public questions. Though devoting his chief attention to his profession, his aid and influence are not withheld whenever any public-spirited movement is set on foot for the moral or material improvement of the community. Fraternally he is connected with the Independent Order of Foresters, the Ancient Essenic Order, and the Elks. He also belongs to the Miami County Medical Association. He was married January 22, 1879, to Miss Mary Kline, of Troy, Ohio. He and his wife are the parents of two children—Mayme and Harry.

JAMES KERR, deceased, was in his day one of the most prominent and successful men of affairs of Monroe Township, Miami County, Ohio, where the family has been established ever since the very earliest pioneer days. He was born on the farm adjoining the one on which his widow and sons now live, the date being November 6, 1834, and was a son of James, Sr., and Sally (Thompson) Kerr, and a grandson of George Kerr.

George Kerr, the grandfather, was born in Marietta, Ohio, whither his parents had located upon coming to this country from Ireland. They originally came from Scotland. George Kerr was a young man when he came west to Miami County, Ohio, and took up his residence in the woods of Monroe Township, becoming an extensive land owner. He was married here and reared a large family, mostly sons.

James Kerr, Sr., was born and reared in Monroe Township, Miami County, Ohio, where he always lived and farmed. He was married to Sally Thompson, who was lost from her parents in Canada and brought to Ohio by soldiers who were fighting Indians. She had the reputation of being a very beautiful woman and lived to the age of eighty-four years, surviving her husband many years. He died in 1863, at the age of sixty-five years. They were parents of the following children: Hamilton; Hanford; George; Margaret (Sinsman); Thompson; William; Rebecca Ann, wife of Harvey Houston; James; John; Perry; and Sally Ann, who died at six years.

James Kerr, subject of this record, never resided over a half mile from the place of his birth. He began when quite young and did most of the clearing on the home place; he was a hard worker and always followed general farming and stock raising, making a specialty of shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs. He prospered beyond the average and at his death owned a farm of 188 acres. He died July 7, 1884, and his many friends and acquaintances mourned his death as an irreparable loss to the community. He was much interested in Masonry, and was an active member of the lodge at Troy.

March 19, 1858, Mr. Kerr was united in marriage with Miss Mary Elizabeth McPherson, who was reared in Miami County, Ohio, she being a daughter of Adam D. and Rachael (Morris) McPherson. Her father was born in Clark County, Ohio, and her mother in Miami County. Mrs. Kerr was born at Logansport, Indiana, March 1, 1838, and is at present living with her sons on the old home place in Monroe Township. By her marriage she had four children, as follows: James M., who was born in Concord Township, January 15, 1859; William of Oklahoma, who married Della Westlake and has two children, Elsie and Irving; Sherman, who was born on the present farm, November 13, 1866; and Albert, who was born on this farm December 31, 1868.

James Sherman and Albert Kerr live with their mother on the home farm and carry on operations under the firm name of Kerr Brothers. They have 355 acres in Monroe and Concord Townships and follow general farming and stock raising on a large scale, buying largely in the Chicago markets. They also make a business of loaning money at interest. The Kerr brothers were reared on the farm and attended the district schools. They were reared to hard work, and having the entire confidence of their father, were taken into his business deals at an early age. They have traveled extensively over the United States, and are broad and liberal-minded men. Sherman and Albert Kerr are members of Troy Lodge, No. 110, Knights of Pythias; and West Milton Lodge, No. 577, F. & A. M. Religiously, they are members of the Christian Church.

MICHAEL MAIER, one of Covington's esteemed citizens, now living retired, for almost a half century was actively engaged in business here, conducting a carriage and repair shop for forty-eight years, and has watched the city develop from a small place. Mr. Maier was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, March 2, 1835, and is a son of Michael and Katrina (Miller) Maier.

The parents of Mr. Maier passed their whole lives in Germany. The father held a responsible office under the Government, being what was termed a forest watchman, a position given only to men of intelligence and good character. Mr. Maier remembers his parents with feelings of great respect and affection, never seeing them after he was eighteen years old, when he came to America.

In his own land, Michael Maier learned the trade of wagon-making and when he reached the United States, in 1853, he easily secured work at this industry in Hartford, Connecticut, where he remained four years. From Hartford he came to Covington, in 1857, buying out a small shop which was doing business on the Troy Turnpike. Later, during the Civil War, he purchased the shop of Charles M. Gross, where he carried on his trade for many years, only retiring on account of an accident, in April, 1905. Mr. Maier was temporarily crippled by a fall that resulted in a broken leg. He then sold his shop to W. A. Reed. For many years Mr. Maier's wagon and carriage shop was a landmark and on many occasions important matters concerning the welfare of the town were discussed there by Mr. Maier and other old citizens.

In 1858 Mr. Maier was married to Miss Agnes Maria Neth, who died January 19, 1897. She was a daughter of George Neth and was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, and came from there to America and to Ohio four weeks before Mr. Maier crossed the Atlantic Ocean. Seven children were born to this marriage, namely: George E., Judge E. W., John, Michael F., Charles A., Anna and Catherine. The eldest son, George E. Maier, died in 1903, aged forty-eight years. He was twice married, first to Miss Mina Pearson, daughter of Ephraim Pearson. She left one child, Harley, who is engaged in the insurance business at Troy. Judge E. W. Maier, residing at Troy, married Anna Henne, of that city, and they have one son, William. John Maier left home at the age of sixteen years and made his first visit back to Ohio some eight years later, having taken up a land claim in Nebraska. When thirty-one years old he married and has the following children: Michael, Charles, Harley, Agnes, Robert and Anna. Michael F. Maier is a commercial traveler but retains his residence at Covington. He married Mollie Goehring and they have two children: Harman and Lula. Charles A. Maier, residing at Piqua, married Mary Reed and they have two children, Reva and Ruth. Anna Maier married Clark Reed of Piqua. Catherine, the youngest of the family, married Barney Smith, who came from Wurtemberg, Germany, when ten years of age. Mr. Maier has been identified with the Masonic fraternity for a great many years and for thirty-two years was treasurer of the Covington Lodge.

DAVID C. SHAFFER, a prosperous general farmer of Bethel Township, where he lives on a farm of 132 acres of valuable land, of which he owns two-thirds and his sister one-third. He was born September 2, 1834, on his grandfather's farm, in Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio, his parents being John and Nancy (Reed) Shaffer.

Simon Shaffer, the grandfather of David C., was born in Berks County, Pennsylvania, and he came with his wife to Miami County in 1805, locating on a farm of 160 acres, in Bethel Township. He became a man of considerable prominence as well as substance, owning at one time some 400 acres of land (at the time of his death he had 137½ acres), building a log house and barn at first, later erecting a frame and still later a brick house, the latter of which still stands but is not tenantable. He was a soldier in the War of 1812 and was with General Wayne's forces when the Troy and Dayton Highway was cut through. He was one of the founders of the Lutheran Church in this section. His first wife was a Miss Miller, of Berks County, Pennsylvania, and his second wife was Catherine Grubb, of Baltimore, Maryland. His six children were born to his first marriage, as follows: George, Elizabeth, Peter, Nancy, John and Catherine.

John Shaffer, father of David C., was born in Bethel Township, Miami County, September 11, 1810, and died December 27, 1888. He made his permanent home in Bethel Township, about the time of his marriage or a few years later, purchasing the home farm from his father, a tract of 137½ acres. He did some clearing and draining and built the house and barn now in use. He acquired also a farm of 160 acres in Indiana and another farm of 115 acres in the vicinity of Phoneton. John Shaffer was one of Bethel Township's most reliable and respected men and on numerous occasions his fellow citizens elected him to township offices. His duties were faithfully performed on all occasions. He served usefully as township trustee and for a number of terms was road supervisor. He was a consistent member of the Reformed Church. In his later years he was affiliated politically with the Republican party. He married Nancy Reed, daughter of Isaac and Mary (Compton) Reed. She died in 1865 and was buried in Bethel Cemetery. They had eight children: Peter, David C., Isaac H., Mary, Henry, Martha and two that died in infancy.

David C. Shaffer attended the district schools in Bethel Township in his boyhood and was given the advantage of one term at Heidelberg, after which he assumed farm duties and continued to help his father until his first marriage. He then settled on a farm near Phoneton and remained there until the death of his wife, when he returned to the homestead and has resided here ever since. During the Civil War he served out one term of enlistment as sergeant in Company B, 147th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, but with that exception has not been away from his home for any prolonged period. He has not found it necessary to do much improving beyond opening up some ditches and doing a little draining. His land produces well and he is numbered with the township's successful farmers.

Mr. Shaffer was married (first) March 8, 1860, to Miss Susan Arnold, a daughter of David and Mary (Detrick) Arnold. Mrs. Shaffer died in April, 1862, and was interred in Bethel Cemetery. She was the mother of two children, William W. and Susan, the former of whom died in middle life and the latter in infancy. William W. married Sarah Houser and is survived by three children, Reynold, Anna Mary and William. Mr. Shaffer was married (second) October 17, 1877, to Miss Sally B. Swain, a daughter of Charles B. and Mary L. (Davis) Swain, and they have three children, namely: Lilla and Anna, twins, and Charles C. Lilla is the wife of W. A. Hatten and they have two children, Lester and Alice. Anna and Charles C. reside at home and the latter is a member of the graduating class of 1910, at the Bethel High School. Mr. and Mrs. Shaffer are members of the Reformed Church, in which he is one of the trustees. Formerly he belonged to the Grange in Bethel Township but is no longer identified with that organization. He is a Republican in his political views but has never accepted any office save that of school director, in which he has served one term.

SOLOMON A. RUDY, whose excellent farm of eighty-three acres is situated in Monroe Township, on the Gingham and Frederick Turnpike, is one of the prosperous farmers and tobacco growers of this section and is also one of the reliable and respected citizens. He was born May 2, 1871, in Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Joseph M. and Louisa (Young) Rudy.

Joseph M. Rudy was born in Bethel Township, Miami County, not far from West Charleston, on the pioneer farm on which his father, Joseph Rudy had settled when he came into what was then a wilderness, from Pennsylvania. Joseph Rudy had five children—Emanuel, Solomon, Mahala, Elizabeth and Joseph M. The last mentioned grew to manhood on that farm and helped to clear it. Shortly after his marriage he engaged in the butcher business for a short time but subsequently returned to his farm and followed agricultural pursuits all the rest of his life. Throughout Ohio and possibly through other States, there is a certain prolific wheat much in favor with the farmers and known as the "Rudy wheat." Its origin is very interesting. One day, George W. Rudy, the eldest brother of Solomon A., noticed some heads of wheat waving in the wind which seemed to have far outstripped the rest of the grain, then ripening evenly. As a matter of curiosity, Mr. Rudy gathered these heads, four in all, and took them to his father. The latter decided to experiment with them and planted them, for trial, in the garden. The result was surprising, the yield being far beyond that of any other specimen and several years later, Mr. Rudy had a yield of 1,736 bushels, which he placed on the market and received for it $1.50 per bushel. It has since been called the Rudy wheat, and it was the means of adding largely to Mr. Rudy's income from his wheat lands. He died on that farm when aged sixty-eight years. His widow survives and lives at Tippecanoe City. She was formerly Miss Louisa Young and was born and reared in Bethel Township. They had ten children, namely: Montgomery M., George W., Anna, Lillian, Ella and Ida (twins), Joseph, Solomon A., and Flora L. and an infant, both of whom are deceased.

Solomon A. Rudy spent his boyhood days on the home farm and was educated in the district schools, spending one winter in the High School, and one term at college, at Ada, Ohio. He then took upon himself his share of the work at home and continued to live with his parents until his marriage, when he purchased his present farm from Mrs. John F. Idemiller. He found it necessary to do quite an amount of improving, and using good judgment in the matter, he now has a very comfortable home with substantial farm buildings of all kinds. He grows the usual grains that do well in this section and usually devotes about five acres to tobacco.

Mr. Rudy was married January 2, 1893, to Miss Lilly M. Smith, a daughter of John and Mary (Idemiller) Smith, of Monroe Township, and they have six children: Mildred, Emerson, Joseph, Mary, Paul and Harold. Mr. Rudy and wife are members of the Dunkard Church.

J. F. WILGUS, who owns and resides upon a valuable farm of seventy-two acres in Lost Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, comes of an old and prominent family of the county. He was born in this township on November 7, 1860, and is a son of John H. and Dulcina (Frazee) Wilgus, a grandson of Thomas Wilgus, and great-grandson of William Wilgus. It is an old Quaker family which was established in this country by four brothers, who came from England during the colonial days.

William Wilgus, great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born in New Jersey, and there followed the trade of a tailor. At an early date, accompanied by his wife and children, he went with a team and wagon to Cincinnati, Ohio. He was offered a quarter section of land in what now is the heart of the city for his team and wagon, but not liking the place, he decided to return to his old home in New Jersey. He got to a point near Lebanon, in Warren County, Ohio, where he lost a horse, and as a result was obliged to spend the winter there. He liked the community so well he determined to remain, and there purchased a farm of 120 acres. There he followed his trade a few years, and farmed until his death, at an advanced age. He and his wife reared a large family.

Thomas Wilgus, the grandfather, was born in New Jersey, and was a mere child when the family moved to Warren County, Ohio. He began working on the home farm, and continued at home until his first marriage. In 1834 he moved with his wife and children to Miami County, Ohio, where he purchased a half section of land in Lost Creek Township, a part of which is now owned by William Wilgus. Mrs. Wilgus, who was in maiden life Anna Hunt, died three weeks after the arrival of the family in this county. They had two children: John; and Mary, who became the wife of John Babb, both now deceased. Thomas Wilgus was later married to Hannah Robinson, and they had the following children: William, of Lost Creek Township; Michael, of Casstown; Thomas, of Fletcher, and Anna, deceased wife of H. Brecount. The mother of this family died in 1883, and her husband in March, 1885.

John Hunt Wilgus was born in Warren County, Ohio, October 5, 1831, and was three years old when his parents moved to Lost Creek Township, in Miami County. His mother dying soon after, he was taken to raise by her people in Warren County, with whom he lived until he was fifteen years of age. Having arrived at the age where he could be of assistance, he went to live with his father on the farm. He received a very meagre education, attending the district schools about three months each winter. He remained with his father until his marriage, then purchased a farm of 100 acres in Lost Creek Township, on which they set up housekeeping. He later sold that property and purchased the present farm of our subject from the Frazee heirs. He followed farming throughout his entire life. He was united in marriage with Dulcina Frazee, who was reared on the farm now owned by her son, J. F. Wilgus, and was a daughter of Lewis Frazee. Her grandfather, David Frazee, a Baptist minister, located in Lost Creek Township at an early date and became the owner of a vast tract of land. John H. Wilgus survived his wife some years, dying May 15, 1908; her death occurred July 24, 1900. They were parents of the following children: Lewis F., of North Dakota; John Franklin; G. Rousseau; Thomas, of West Milton; Ralph H., of West Milton; William W.; and three who died in infancy.

John Franklin Wilgus was reared on the farm and attended the district schools in the vicinity, and the business college at Lebanon, Ohio. He has devoted his activity to farming throughout his career, and has been very successful. He has seventy-two acres in the farm on which he lives, and also has an interest in the old estate. He purchased his farm of Mrs. Mary Blackford, and in 1892 erected a substantial residence, which was destroyed by fire in 1908. He is a Republican in politics, and for sixteen years has served on the school board.

December 9, 1888, Mr. Wilgus was united in marriage with Miss Mary Ellen Bright, a daughter of Adam Bright, of Addison, Ohio. Two children were born to them, namely: Ellwood M. and J. Adam. Mrs. Wilgus died on April 3, 1905. Mr. Wilgus has a wide acquaintance throughout this section of the country, and enjoys the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens to a marked degree.

MARTIN VALENTINE HOUSER, residing on a farm of eighty acres in Staunton Township, Miami County, Ohio, is also the owner of several other tracts of land in that and Spring Creek Townships, having 331 acres in all. He was born on St. Valentine's Day, February 14, 1830, on the home farm in Spring Creek Township, Miami County, and is a son of John and Margaret (Booher) Houser, and a grandson of Martin and Barbara (Neff) Houser

Martin Houser, the grandfather, was a farmer in the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia, and some years after marriage moved to Montgomery County, Ohio, settling on the east side of the Miami River, about two and a half miles north of Dayton, which was then a village consisting of but a few small houses. He later entered one-half a section of land in Spring Creek Township, Miami County, but continued to live at his old home near Dayton, where he died at the age of eighty-one years. He and his wife were parents of the following children: Jacob, Daniel, Isaac, Henry, John, Martin, Barbara and Catherine.

John Houser was born in the Shenandoah Valley, and was a small boy at the time the family moved from Virginia to the vicinity of Dayton, where he was reared to maturity. They lived in a rude log house, and he helped in clearing the timber from the farm. When a young man, during the War of 1812, he hauled grain to the soldiers in the army. He also in that period was one of a party which went to Indiana, it being a hard six weeks' trip at that time. They lost all of their horses but one on the journey, and upon their return sold the remaining horse for the munificent sum of $7.00, which was divided among the seven members of the party. After his marriage and the birth of two children, they moved to Miami County, locating upon the north half of the half section of land entered by his father, his brother Henry locating upon the south half. He lived in a small log house on the place for many years, and cleared it of timber. The country was in a comparatively wild and undeveloped state at that time, and he frequently supplied his table with wild game. He died at the age of eighty-one years, and Mrs. Houser died at the age of eighty-four. They were parents of the following: Samuel; John B.; Barbara, wife of Moses Denman; Martin Valentine; Mary Ann, wife of Job Emmons; Bartholomew, who was a soldier in the Union Army during the Civil War and died at Washington, D. C.; and Jacob, who lost his life in the Battle of the Wilderness. The subject of this sketch is the only one of his parents' family now living.

Martin V. Houser spent his boyhood

days on the home farm in Spring Creek township, which he aided in clearing. He first attended school in the old church in that vicinity, also the old log schoolhouse, and the brick school which replaced it. He received a fair education, being ambitious and a good student, and was tendered a position as teacher at different times. His educational training was restricted by illness, and in his youth he went on an extended hunting trip in Indiana for the benefit of his health. He covered 231 miles on horseback in six weeks, and returned home in a much improved condition. He has always followed farming, and what he owns he owes almost entirely to his individual efforts. His first purchase was the farm on which he now lives, and when the mortgage was finally removed from the place he felt himself the happiest and richest man in the community. He has always invested his earnings to good advantage, and now has 331 acres, in several tracts, in Spring Creek and Staunton Townships.

In November, 1856, Mr. Houser was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Duncan, a daughter of Robert and Jane (McClintock) Duncan, and her death occurred March 2, 1886. They became parents of two children, Ida and Flora. Ida Houser was married to Willis Peterson, of Staunton Township, and has two children—Roy, who married Elsie Clark; and Ralph. Flora Houser married J. Todd Small, by whom she has two children, Ray and Birdie, and they make their home with her father. Politically, Mr. Houser is a strong Prohibitionist, and a staunch supporter of Bryan, being the only member of the family to vote the Democratic ticket. He has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years, and has filled various church offices.

FRANK EDWARD LEFEVRE, owner of 105 acres of farm land in Staunton Township, Miami County, Ohio, is one of the substantial and progressive men of that community. He was born on his present farm March 15, 1862, and is a son of Cyrus Haywood and Caroline (Babb) LeFevre, and a grandson of Christian LeFevre.

Christian LeFevre came to Miami County, Ohio, from Maryland, bringing his bride to this then new country in a wagon, and he helped to clear the road which the pioneers used in going to Cincinnati. He obtained a patent from the government for the LeFevre farm in Staunton Township, and there erected a log cabin in the woods. A box was used for a table and puncheons driven into the wall for use as a bed. They resided here the remainder of their lives, he dying February 26, 1871, and his wife about six months later. They were parents of the following children: Sarah, John, Elizabeth, Minor, Naomi, Amy, Reason, James, Alfred, Cyrus H., Christian, Solomon, and Mary.

Cyrus H. LeFevre was born in the log cabin on the home farm, October 23, 1824, and spent all his life on this farm. In compliance with his father's wish, he purchased the interests of the other heirs to the 262 acres which composed the home farm. In addition to farming, he dealt extensively in live stock, and also was considerable of a capitalist. He died October 28, 1894, and his death was mourned as a loss to the community by his many lifelong friends and acquaintances. He was married to Caroline Babb, a daughter of

Daniel Babb, one of the pioneer settlers of Miami County, and they became parents of three children—Walter, of Troy, who owns part of the old home place; one who died in infancy, and Frank Edward. Mrs. LeFevre died January 7, 1875.

Frank E. LeFevre spent his boyhood days on the farm and attended school in this vicinity. With the exception of a short time following his marriage, he has always resided on this farm, and is engaged in general agriculture. His house was badly damaged by the cyclone of June 25, 1902, but was immediately remodeled and improved. He has met with much success in tobacco growing. He has in his possession the sheepskin deed to this farm, granted to his grandfather by the government and bearing the signature of President Andrew Jackson.

September 20, 1892, Mr. LeFevre was united in marriage with Miss Vina Schramm, a daughter of George and Rachel (Schultz) Schramm, both of whom came from Germany and are now living at advanced ages, in Newton township, Miami County. A daughter, Helen May, was born to bless this union. Politically Mr. LeFevre is a Republican, as have been the other members of the family since the organization of the party. They belong to the Presbyterian Church.

HON. HARRY J. RITTER, Tippecanoe City, Ohio, serving in the seventy-seventh and seventy-eighth General Assemblies, for many years has been one of the foremost citizens and business men of Miami County. He is general manager, secretary, and treasurer of the Tippecanoe Building and Manufacturing Company, a large concern with extensive interests, and is also identified with various enterprises in different parts of the county. Mr. Ritter was born near Reading, Pennsylvania, March 29, 1848, and is a son of Israel Ritter, his ancestors being of German nationality.

He was seven years old when his parents moved to the city of Reading, where he lived until he entered Pennsylvania State College at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. He attended that institution until he was sixteen years old, when, in March, 1864, he entered the service of the Union army, joining the signal corps. He thus served until August 5, 1865, his duties calling him to Virginia, West Virginia, and Maryland. He was honorably discharged at Greencastle, Pennsylvania, and at once returned to Reading, where he pursued a course in the business college. After graduating therefrom in 1866, he accepted a clerkship in a hardware store and continued thus occupied for a year. At the end of that time he went to Carroll County, Missouri, and, in company with a brother-in-law, was engaged in the stock business there for a year and a half. He then returned to Pennsylvania, and with headquarters at Reading, dealt extensively in horses, making a specialty of fast trotting stock.

In 1871 Mr. Ritter became identified with the development of oil fields near Titusville, and in the meantime continued dealing in horses. In 1874 he moved west to Miami County, Ohio, and took charge of Col. John R. Woodward's stock farm in Bethel Township, which he managed until the Colonel's death in 1876. He then conducted the farm himself, breeding and developing trotting horses until 1881. He then moved to Tippecanoe City, and in the following year went to Europe as purchasing agent for the prominent firm of Powell Brothers, of Shadeland, Pennsylvania. He continued in that capacity eight years, during which period he crossed the ocean sixteen times, traveling through England, Ireland, Scotland, Belgium, France, Germany, and the Shetland Islands, purchasing horses for export to the United States, about eight years of his life being thus spent in Europe.

In the spring of 1890 Mr. Ritter returned to Tippecanoe City, and four years later purchased the business of C. Trupp & Co., which he reorganized under the name of the Tippecanoe Building and Manufacturing Company, becoming its principal stockholder, as well as general manager and treasurer. This company does a large business in contracting and building, also operating lumber yards, a planing-mill and sawmill, and manufacturing furniture. Employment is given to a large force of men, and for years the plant has been kept running at its full capacity, its products being sold in many parts of the country. Mr. Ritter has served many years as president and manager of the Tippecanoe City Interurban Telephone Company. He is also president of the Tippecanoe Business Men's Club. He served twelve years on the Board of Education, most of the time as clerk and president. He is a man of keen business perception and through his own industry has won his own way to the front rank among the business men of the county.

Mr. Ritter was married October 14, 1879, to Miss Ada L. Woodward, a daughter of Col. John R. and Marcella (Bell) Woodward. The Colonel was born in Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio, December 5, 1835, and was a son of William Woodward, who was a native of Williamsport, Pennsylvania, and became a pioneer settler of Miami County.

In September, 1861, Col. John R. Woodward enlisted in military service and was made captain of Company C, Seventy-first Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served until August, 1862, participating in a number of engagements, among them the battle of Shiloh. In 1864 he aided in organizing and raising the 147th Ohio Regiment for 100 days' service, and was chosen lieutenant colonel. Upon receiving an honorable discharge in 1865, he returned to the farm in Bethel Township, where he subsequently resided until his death in 1876. He and his wife had two children —William B., of Washington Court House, and Ada L.

Mr. and Mrs. Ritter have a son, Harry Woodward, who was born February 19, 1886, is a graduate of Yale College, admitted to the bar December, 1908. Religiously they are active members of the Lutheran Church. Politically Mr. Ritter has always taken an earnest interest in the success of the Republican party and the supremacy of its principles and as already partially intimated, has been frequently called upon to fill positions of honor and public trust. As representative in the State Legislature he has served his constituents in an intelligent and conscientious manner and has gained the friendship of his former political opponents. At the first session of the seventy-seventh General Assembly he was appointed a member of a joint committee to investigate penitentiaries with a view of remodeling the Ohio penitentiary. He was also a member of the standing committees on

Taxation, Insurance, Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' Home, and Fish and Game.

During the seventy-eighth General Assembly he was a member of the standing committees on Finance, Taxation, Public Works, and Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' Home. He was chairman of the Finance Committee, the most important in the House. He succeeded in getting out the General Appropriation Bill carrying $7,607,927 with it, in less than three weeks, and introduced it one day and the House passed it the next day without a single change. He was appointed and made chairman of a special Advisory Committee to the Board of Managers of the Ohio penitentiary.

Fraternally he is a member of Tippecanoe Lodge, No. 174, F. & A. M.; Franklin Chapter, R. A. M.; Coleman Commandery, K. T., of Troy; and of the Royal Arcanum, of which he is a past regent. He is also a member of D. M. Rouzer Post, G. A. R., of Tippecanoe City; Antioch Temple and Thirty-second Degree Scottish Rite.

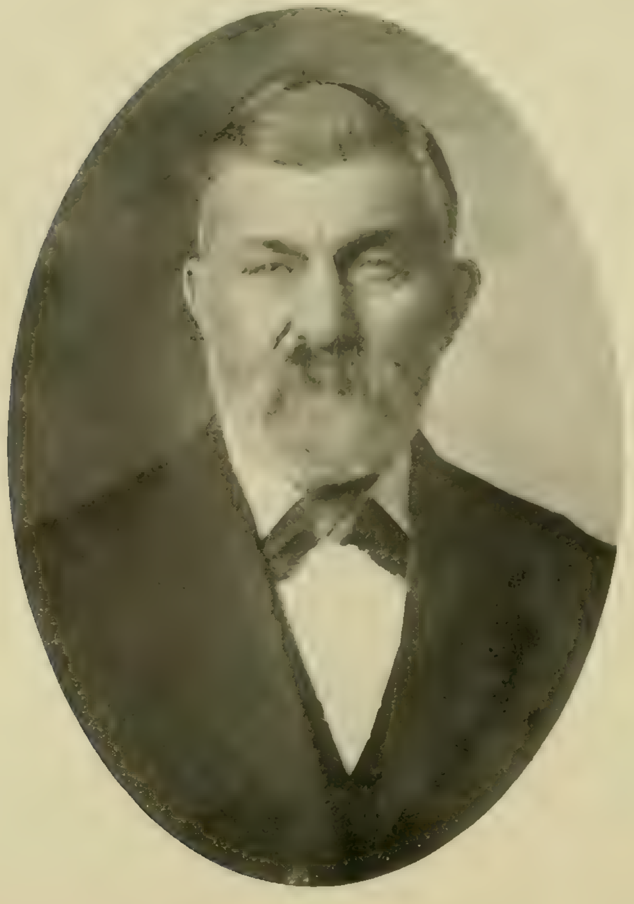
LEVI SWITZER, a prominent retired farmer residing in his comfortable home at No. 213 South May Street, Troy, Ohio, for many years was one of Miami County's leading agriculturists. He was born in October, 1837, in York County, Pennsylvania, and is a son of William and Elizabeth Switzer.

The parents of Mr. Switzer came to Ohio about 1852, settling at what is now Dialton, in Clark County, but not finding conditions to suit them there, soon came into Miami County, where the balance of their lives were spent. Of their family of children there are four survivors, namely: Levi; Jacob, who also resides at Covington; Mary, who is the wife of Samuel Diven, and lives near the old home at Pleasant Hill; and Catherine, who is the widow of John Varner, and lives with her son George at Covington.

Levi Switzer obtained his education in his native state and after accompanying his parents to Ohio, continued to follow agricultural pursuits almost continuously, until he retired to Troy. He served during a period of 100 days in the Civil War, a member of Company A, 147th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and while receiving no permanent injury during this time, he experienced enough hardship to understand what a soldier's life means. His service was faithfully performed, he being stationed near Arlington Heights.

On January 29, 1869, Mr. Switzer was married in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, to Miss Sallie E. Zeigler, who was born there in 1840. She is a daughter of the late Jesse and Mary Ann (Peffer) Zeigler. Her father died in 1881 and her mother in 1895. Of their eight children six survive, namely: Sophia E., who resides in New Jersey; Mrs. Switzer; John H., Jesse P. and William A., all three of Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, and Mrs. P. C. Ratcliff, of Troy. To Mr. and Mrs. Switzer were born two sons, Jesse and Edward, the former of whom is one of the officials of the Cash Register Company of Dayton, the latter being a substantial farmer in Miami County.

For many years Mr. Switzer was active in all that concerned the public affairs of his township, serving in local offices and lending his influence to all that advanced the community's best interests. He is one of the older members of the Lutheran Church at Troy, in which he has long



LEVI SWITZER

MRS. SALLIE Z. SWITZER

served as an elder. For over fifty years he has been identified with the Masonic fraternity and is known well in that organization all through this section. Mr. Switzer has witnessed many changes since he came to Miami County and has done his full share in making these of practical importance.

J. B. BARKER M. D., one of Piqua's reputable physicians and surgeons, was born in Campbell County, Kentucky, March 20, 1856, and when twelve years of age accompanied his parents to Clermont County, Ohio. Dr. Barker attended the schools of Moscow, Ohio, and after graduating from the high school, entered the Eclectic Medical Institute at Cincinnati, where he was graduated in 1881. He began practice at Blue Creek, in Adams County, where he remained for three and a half years. In September, 1885, he located at Fletcher, in Miami County, where, for twenty-two years, he carried on the active practice of his profession, with regret severing very many pleasant ties when his business interests led him to settle in Piqua in 1907. He is a medical man of superior qualifications and is a member of the Miami County Medical Society, the Union Clinical Society of Western Ohio, the Western Ohio Eclectic Medical Society, of which he is president, and the Ohio State Eclectic Medical Association, and the National Eclectic Medical Association. Under the late ex-President Cleveland he served as a member of the United States Board of Pension Examiners.

On March 27, 1884, Dr. Barker was married to Miss Jennie Christina Franz, of Adams County, Ohio, and they have three children, Mattie Estella, Ella Christina and Joseph Hamilton. Dr. Barker and family are members of the Presbyterian Church. Fraternally he is identified with the Masons, Odd Fellows, and Knights of Pythias.

WALTER E. BOWYER, cashier of the Troy National Bank, with which financial institution he has been identified since August, 1894, was born at Foster, Warren County, Ohio, in March, 1873.

Mr. Bowyer was educated in his native section and in the high school at Arcanum, Darke County, and for several years thereafter he taught school, and then entered the employ of Joseph Mayer & Sons, dealers in leaf tobacco, where he continued for two years. From there he entered the employ of the Farmers and Merchants Banking Company, at Arcanum, where he remained until he accepted the office of bookkeeper in the Troy National Bank, in August, 1894. Step by step he advanced until in June, 1902, he was made cashier of this bank, a position of responsibility he has held ever since. He is interested in other successful business enterprises of this city, being a stockholder and a member of the board of directors of the Hobart Electric Manufacturing Company, the Troy Buggy Works Company, the Troy Carriage Sunshade Company, and others.

In February, 1896, Mr. Bowyer was married to Miss Charlotte Thompson, who is a daughter of Dr. W. R. Thompson, of Troy, and they have one daughter, Laura Margaret. Mr. and Mrs. Bowyer are members of the First Presbyterian Church, of which he is treasurer. Mr. Bowyer is an active and useful citizen and is serving as a member of the School Board at Troy. Socially he is identified with the Troy Club; fraternally is a Knights Templar Mason, and Knight of Pythias, belonging also to the Junior Order of American Mechanics.

AUGUSTUS C. HALL, D. D. S., one of Covington's best known and esteemed citizens, who for thirty years has been engaged in the practice of dental surgery at this place, is also an honored veteran of the great Civil War. Dr. Hall was born on a farm in Butler Township, Montgomery County, Ohio, July 1, 1834, and is a son of James and Henrietta (Sidden) Hall.

James Hall was born in South Carolina and was a son of William Hall, who was a Quaker in religious faith, and it is probable that he came to Ohio in 1808 in order to rear his family in a free State, the Quakers being notably opposed to slavery. He lived at first at Dayton, but later settled on a farm in Montgomery County, on which he resided until his death, when aged eighty-six years three months and twenty-one days. When the family came to Ohio James Hall was small. He was reared on the home farm and devoted himself to agricultural pursuits. His death took place December 14, 1854. He married Henrietta Sidden, who was born in North Carolina and died in Ohio, April 24, 1850. A numerous family was born to James Hall and wife, and four of the sons adopted dentistry as their profession. These were: William P., who practiced at Piqua for many years and resides in that city, aged eighty-six years; Horatio G., who died at Piqua, in May, 1901; Samuel T., a twin brother of Dr. Augustus C., who is still in active practice at Coffeyville, Kansas; and Augustus C., of Covington. The profession has claimed practitioners from the next generation. Dr. Ward Hall, son of Dr. W. P., died at Shanghai, China, of hydrophobia, September 29, 1908. Dr. Edward and Dr. Eugene Hall, sons of Dr. H. G. Hall, are practitioners in Columbus, Ohio. The two sons of Dr. Augustus C. Hall have both become prominent in the same profession.

Dr. Augustus C. Hall began the study of dentistry with his eldest brother, in April, 1855, and after completing his course of study he opened and conducted an office at Piqua for four years. His practice was interrupted when he enlisted for service in the Civil War. On September 22, 1862, he enlisted in Company H, Sixty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, as a private, serving through his first period and re-enlisting at Prospect, Tennessee, as a veteran. Although he participated in all the dangers in which his company and regiment took part, including the march to the sea with General Sherman, the Atlanta campaign, the battle of Kenesaw Mountain and many others, and was so valiant a soldier as to gain promotion to the first lieutenancy of Company H, Sixty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, he was never either wounded or taken prisoner. He was honorably discharged and was mustered out at Louisville, Kentucky, on July 8, 1865. He is a valued member of Langston Post, No. 299, Grand Army of the Republic.

On November 11, 1879, Dr. Hall located at Covington, and this city has been his chosen home ever since. In 1880 he established a dental office at Pleasant Hill, and for twenty years it was his custom to receive patients at that point every Friday. About the same time, in order to accommodate the people of Bradford, he established an office there which for twenty-four years he visited every Tuesday. His scientific skill is appreciated all through this section and, although he is no longer quite so active in professional work, having delegated a considerable portion of it to his capable partner, Dr. George Y. Hall, he still enjoys perfecting some of the delicate and important bits of dentistry which much scientific study and long experience have so thoroughly qualified him for and which place him in the front rank of his profession in Eastern Ohio.

May 1, 1866, Dr. Hall was married to Miss Caroline Yount, a daughter of John and Nancy (Insco) Yount, natives of North Carolina. Two sons were born to this marriage, Ernest and George Y. Dr. Ernest Hall was graduated from the Ohio Dental College, after studying three years with his father. He remained with the latter for a short time, and then opened an office first at Wapokoneta and later at Hamilton, where he is well established in practice. He married Miss Jessie Sortman, of Hamilton, and they have one son, Dwight Elvin.

Dr. George Y. Hall, the second son, who is the present manager of the dental business both at Covington and Pleasant Hill, was born at Piqua, Ohio, September 2, 1877, and was a student in the Covington High School until in his senior year, when, on account of his older brother leaving home, he entered his father's office as student and assistant. After proper preparation, he entered the Ohio Dental College at Cincinnati, and was graduated in the class of 1901, receiving honors. He continues to reside with his parents, and is one of the city's most enterprising young professional men. He is a Mason, and belongs to Covington's Ancient and Honored Order of Gobblers. The Hall family is affiliated with the Christian Church.

HARRY LINCOLN SAYERS, a worthy representative of one of the oldest families in Miami County, is engaged in general farming on a tract of 125 acres belonging to his father, a part of the old Sayers farm, lying in Staunton, Elizabeth and Lost Creek Townships. He was born March 26, 1864, on his present farm, and in the house in which he resides. His parents are Ezekiel and Caroline (French) Sayers.

The Sayers family may be credited with being one of the very first to penetrate into the great forests of Miami County, when all this smiling and productive country was a wilderness. William Sayers, the great-grandfather of Harry L., was a contemporary settler with the Knoops, coming about the same time from Pennsylvania, or a very short period later. He entered a large tract of land in Elizabeth Township, and this land has descended from father to son until the present time. These early settlers met many difficulties and faced innumerable dangers, and in overcoming them bred a race of hardy, courageous men and women, and these qualities are seen in the present generation. William Sayers often shared his meals with the wandering Indians, and thus gained their good will, and in the records of his family are found no indications of their ingratitude.

Jefferson Sayers succeeded his father William, and took possession of the property when the latter passed away. He did a large amount of clearing, and made the first roads, in boyhood blazing his path through the thick woods. He was a man of enterprise, and later engaged in teaming between Cincinnati and Toledo, carrying freight before there was any transportation line built between these important points. He lived to be seventy-four years of age, and died on the east half of the old farm. His wife, Margaret, survived him about ten years. They had seven children, namely: Ezekiel; John, who is deceased; Harrison; Enos, who served in the Civil War from 1861 until 1864; Sallie, who married Christopher Class; Judson, who served in the Civil War from 1861 until 1864; and Milton, now deceased, who also served three years in the Civil War.

Ezekiel Sayers, father of Harry L., was born on the eastern portion of the old Sayers farm, in September, 1832, and, being the eldest of the family, he assumed the responsibilities of a farmer almost in boyhood. When his father died he inherited the western half of the homestead, and to that property he subsequently added other land. He spent the greater portion of his life prior to 1885 engaged in cultivating his farm and then retired, moving to Troy, where he occupies a pleasant and comfortable residence on Lincoln Avenue. He was married (first) to Caroline French, who died in 1878, when in middle age. She was born and reared in Indiana. There were five children born to this union, namely: Martha, who is the wife of R. Clyne; Carry, who is now deceased; Alta, who is the wife of T. L. Rogers; Harry Lincoln; and Maggie, who is the wife of Clinton Free. Mr. Sayers was married (second) to Catherine Knight, who survives.

Harry Lincoln Sayers has spent almost the whole of his life in Staunton Township. During some years of his infancy the family lived in Miami City, but here he obtained his education and his training as a farmer. He remained assisting his father until he was twenty-four years of age, and then started out for himself, renting the land from his father. He carries on a general line of farming, and makes it pay. His crops are the usual ones of this section, and he grows stock for his own use.

On October 14, 1886, Mr. Sayers was married to Miss Ida Scott, who is a daughter of James and Frances (Scott) Scott, and they have two children, a daughter and son: Nona, who was born March 9, 1892, and Scott, who was born June 3, 1898. Mr. Sayers is a member of the Baptist Church, and Mrs. Sayers belongs to the First Presbyterian Church of Troy. In his political views he is a Republican.

R. N. BURWELL, county treasurer-elect of Miami County, Ohio, is a native of this State, and the son of the late William P. Burwell. Born in Buena Vista, Scioto County, Ohio, April 15, 1869, Mr. Burwell received his education in the public schools at Buena Vista, later locating in Troy. His first business experience was gained as a clerk in a hardware store, he resigning this position after eight years' service to take a commercial course in a business college. His interests broadened as he grew older and he began to be active in politics. His first official position in public life was being appointed deputy county auditor, he later accepting the position of deputy treasurer. Mr. Burwell's large acquaintance throughout the county and his experience in county affairs made him a formidable candidate for the nomination for county treasurer, which he received

May 23, 1908, and was elected county treasurer in November, 1908, the responsible duties of which office he will assume in September, 1909.

Mr. Burwell takes a great interest in lodge affairs and is past chancellor commander of the Knights of Pythias and also belongs to the Junior Order of American Mechanics and is a member of the Troy Club.

CLIFFORD D. McCOY, traveling representative of the Allen & Wheeler Company of Troy, Ohio, in the states of Ohio and Kentucky, has been a resident of Piqua for the past twenty years. He was born in Casstown, Ohio, in 1869, and is a son of William and Paulina (Frazier) McCoy.

William McCoy was born in New Jersey, where he learned the trade of a carpenter. He moved to Indiana, and while there enlisted in Company I, Twenty-seventh Battalion Indiana Volunteers, and served until the close of the Civil War. He then moved to Miami County, Ohio, where he continued at his trade during his active career and resided until his death in 1905.

Clifford D. McCoy was reared in Casstown and was educated in the public schools there and in Piqua High School. Upon leaving school he was clerk in a grocery some fifteen years, at the end of which time he accepted his present position as traveling salesman for the Aleen & Wheeler Company of Troy. He is a man of wide acquaintance in Piqua and vicinity, and has many personal friends.

In 1893 Mr. McCoy married Miss Mattie B. Alexander, a daughter of M. W. Alexander, who is a highly esteemed retired citizen of Piqua. Two children, Frances Pauline and Clifford D. McCoy, Jr., were born of this union. Religiously, they are members of the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. McCoy is a member of the official church board. In politics he is a Republican. Fraternally, he is a member of the Knights of Pythias, in which he has been quite prominent and has held all the offices and been master of exchequer for the past six years; and to the Union Commercial Travelers.

DAVID W. ORBISON, who with his brother, Ora D. Orbison, is the owner of eighty-six acres of valuable land in Staunton Township, Miami County, Ohio, comes of one of the old and prominent families of the community. He was born October 29, 1856, about eight months after his father's death, and is a son of David, Sr., and Hannah D. (Jones) Orbison, and a grandson of Henry Orbison.

Henry Orbison was born in Virginia and at an early age accompanied his parents to Miami County, Ohio, which was then in practically a wild and undeveloped state. He first located at Piqua, the old fort still standing at that time, and later settled one-half mile south of our subject's present farm in Staunton Township. He also came into possession of the present farm, which then consisted of 160 acres of timberland and was acquired from General Harrison. He continued to live on the south farm the most of his days, but died at the home of a son in Troy at a ripe old age. He and his wife were parents of the following children: David; William, who was a soldier in the Union Army during the Civil War; Alexander; Thomas; James; Martha; Gilmore; Nancy and Julia. All are now deceased.

David Orbison, Sr., was born on the old

home farm, now known as the Peterson farm, in Staunton Township, Miami County, Ohio, in 1818, and helped to clear the place. He was a man of superior education for those days, and as a young man held a position in the county court house. He died in the prime of life, in March, 1856. He was married to Hannah D. Jones, who survived him many years. She was a native of New Hampshire, and was among the first to make the trip over the new Miami Canal from Toledo to Troy. The village at the time of her arrival was very small; but four houses could boast of having a lawn. She engaged in teaching in the village prior to her marriage. They set up housekeeping in a rented house on the Troy pike, while their new brick home was being erected on the eighty acres which David purchased from his father for three hundred dollars. The place was almost wholly uncleared at the time. Five children were born of this union, three of whom died young. Those living are Ora Danforth Orbison, who lives with his brother and is part owner of the home farm, and David Wilber, whose name heads this record.

David W. Orbison attended the old Peterson school in his home district and has lived nearly all his life in this vicinity. He follows general farming and each year has about four acres in sugar cane, operating a sugar-mill on the farm. December 6, 1881, Mr. Orbison was united in marriage with Miss Amanda Stith, a daughter of William Stith of Miami County, and they have two children: Ray, who married Elizabeth Ralston and has a daughter, Helen; and Walter J., who lives at home. Politically, he is a stalwart Republican and his brother also is a supporter of the principles of that party. They are substantial men of the township and are well known.

R. F. BENNETT, A. M., who has been prominently identified with the educational interests of Miami County for more than fifty years, and at present is superintendent of the public schools of Newberry Township, was born January 15, 1836, at Piqua, Ohio, and is a son of Enoch and Margaret (Withcott) Bennett.

The parents of Professor Bennett moved to a farm in Washington Township, Miami County, when he was four years old, and there he grew to manhood. He secured his education in the country schools and in a select school at Piqua, which he attended for two years, and when twenty years of age taught his first term of school, that being in Newberry Township. He continued to teach, and after four years in Washington Township he took a course at the Ohio Wesleyan College at Delaware. In 1863 he came to Covington, and has been continuously connected with the educational affairs of this city and neighborhood ever since. For a period of thirty-two years he served as superintendent of the Covington schools and for the past ten years has been superintendent of the schools of Newberry Township. He owns a valuable farm of 240 acres, situated in Washington Township, a part of it being the Bennett homestead, formerly owned by his father.

In 1867 Professor Bennett was married to Miss Frances Jordan, who died in 1900. One son was born to this marriage, Professor L. J. Bennett, who has been superintendent of the Covington schools for the past five years, filling the same office in which his father had made so honorable a record for so long a period.

Professor L. J. Bennett was born February 28, 1878, at Covington, and from boyhood displayed evidences of a quick and receptive mind. With credit he graduated from the Covington and the Piqua schools, and subsequently the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware. Flattering offers were made to him from educational institutions upon his return, and he taught one year in the Bethel Township High School and one year in the Covington High School and then returned to Bethel Township for one year as superintendent. Although he was re-elected to the same office for the following year, he decided to accept the similar position at Covington, two other superintendents, in the meanwhile, separating his incumbency from that of his honored father. He is one of the board of three school examiners in Miami County. He married Miss Addie Harwood, and they have one daughter, Frances.

Professor R. F. Bennett is a member and one of the trustees of the Covington Methodist Episcopal Church. His fraternal affiliation is with the Odd Fellows. He has been honored on many occasions by educational bodies, and positions of political importance have been offered him, but he has had no leaning toward public life. He is one of the trustees of the Miami County Children's Home. He has witnessed a wonderful change in the attitude of the people and in educational methods since he first entered the field, and it has been his pleasant task to contribute much to the high standard which is maintained in the schools of Miami County at the present day.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN KEMP, owner of eighty acres of well improved farm land in Lost Creek Township, is one of the representative men of this section of Miami County. He was born July 1, 1847, on the old Kemp homestead farm situated just across the road from his own property, in Lost Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Hiram and Margaret (Moore) Kemp.

Hiram Kemp was born near Allentown, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, and was a son of Ralph and Elizabeth (Probst) Kemp. Ralph Kemp was born near Hollis, New Hampshire, and went to Pennsylvania in early manhood and taught school at Allentown. He married in Lehigh County and later brought his family to Ohio and settled in Lost Creek Township on a farm west of the one owned by his grandson. It was then an undeveloped region and the family endured many pioneer privations, but nevertheless the parents lived into old age. In 1847 Ralph Kemp built the brick house still standing. His three children were: Hiram, Edwin and Hannah, the latter of whom married James Long; all are now deceased.

Hiram Kemp came to Ohio in early manhood as his father had gone to Pennsylvania, and married Jane Margaret Moore, who was born near Franklin, Warren County, Ohio. Her parents were James and Agnes (Small) Moore and her maternal grandfather was Andrew Small, a Revolutionary hero, who was with General Montgomery when the Heights of Abraham were scaled at Quebec. Mrs. Kemp, in her girlhood, accompanied her parents on horseback to Spring Creek Township, where she subsequently married Hiram Kemp. The latter died in 1851, when aged twenty-seven years. Five years later she married Jacob Youtsey and both died on the farm on which Mr. Kemp lives. There was no issue to the second union, but two sons were born to the first: Benjamin Franklin and Francis Marion, the latter of whom lives in Kansas.

Benjamin F. Kemp attended the district schools in his youth and later enjoyed one term at Antioch College and one year in the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio. These educational advantages placed him far ahead of the larger number of his companions and he put his knowledge to the practical test of imparting it to others and for sixteen years taught school most acceptably through Miami County. He then purchased twenty acres of his present farm and when his mother died he inherited sixty acres, all of which he devotes to general farming and stock raising. The present comfortable residence was built during his mother's lifetime. On July 28, 1875, Mr. Kemp was married to Miss Wilmina Search, a daughter of Charles and Sarah J. Search, and they have one child, Warren B. The latter married Grace Buchanan and they have two children, Margaret B. and Carlton F.

In his political sentiments, Mr. Kemp has always been identified with Democratic policies and he has frequently been elected to public office. He is a member of the present township School Board and has served with efficiency as trustee and as justice of the peace. Since July, 1871, Mr. Kemp has been a member of the order of Odd Fellows at Fletcher, in which he has held all the offices, including that of district deputy grand master and at present being past grand master. Ever since uniting with this organization he has worked earnestly for the principles which it inculcates.

WILLIAM HENRY SMITH, whose excellent farm of 105 acres lies in Lost Creek Township, one mile from the eastern line of Miami County, has been a quiet, general farmer for many years, but for a long period led a more active and adventurous life than falls to the lot of people generally. He was born in Clark County, Ohio, on the old Croft farm, October 11, 1848, and is a son of Enoch and Catherine (Rockey) Smith.

Enoch Smith was born on a farm near Frankfort, Kentucky, in 1801. His father died when he was quite young and the mother moved first to Virginia, with her children, and then brought the family to Ohio and settled on a small place in Clark County, not far from Boston, where she died. Enoch had two brothers and two sisters, and as his mother's resources were small he started out for himself while still young, beginning to work as a teamster. Later he entered the employ of George Croft and shortly afterward was married to Catherine Rockey, a native of Lancaster, Ohio. Enoch Smith and wife remained with the Croft family for thirty years, giving faithful service and receiving just remuneration and high regard. In 1876 he bought a tract of sixty acres of land one mile north of the present farm of William H. Smith, and there he and wife passed the remaining years of their lives, respected and esteemed by all who knew them. The death of Enoch Smith took place when within sixteen days of his ninetieth year, and his widow died in 1893, two years later, at the home of her son, William

Henry, when aged eighty years. They had eight children, namely: Jonathan, who is deceased; Elizabeth, now deceased, who was the wife of Vincent Yinks; Daniel, who is deceased; Martha, deceased, who was the wife of Levi Kirby, also deceased; Catherine, who is the wife of Augustus Hagan, also deceased; William Henry; and Jacob and James, both of whom live in Clark County, Ohio.

William Henry Smith is a very well informed man, but he secured but little school training in his youth, his services being required on the farm as soon as he was old enough to wield a hoe or hold a plough handle. He remembers the old log district schoolhouse where he was taught the rudiments by a young man who later became the distinguished soldier and statesman, Gen. O. W. Keiffer. In 1868 he left home, being then a youth of about twenty years, and, in company with his cousin, Jesse Benson, started for that land of adventure—the West. The boys utilized the railroad as far as the iron rail would transport them, which was to Laramie, Wyoming. They then started teaming to Helena, Montana, which, at that time was an inconceivably rough mining town and to reach it they had to travel through wild sections beset by savage Indian warriors. They reached Montana safely, however, although parties just before and after, on the same trail, were cruelly massacred. The boys fell in with the ways of the people to some extent, built a cabin on the creek in which they washed out their gold, sometimes digging up $1,000 in a single day for a week at a time, and remained there, with varying luck, for four years. They then returned to Clark County, where they remained for nine months, and then went back to the same region, accompanied by Henry Croft, Jr., and stayed there for seven years.

Mr. Smith then came back to the East and in 1883 he bought his present farm from George Sprinkle, after which he made his third trip to the gold fields, previously renting his farm, on which he had lived for seventeen years, and selling his stock. On this occasion he remained in the far West only two years. His second trip would have proved his most profitable one had it not been undertaken about the time of the Custer massacre, when the Indians were on the war path. At that time, to save themselves from a like fate, the miners had to lay down their tools and waste their time pursuing the savages, and right near the camp where Mr. Smith was interested several of the miners were killed and scalped. On one occasion, just at that time, Mr. Smith says that the water had suddenly gone out of the ditch which supplied the camp, and the supposition was that the Indians had cut off the supply. Mr. Smith was given the doubtful honor of being appointed to go and find out and he took the precaution to carry his loaded gun with him when he started to investigate. Fortunately he met no Indians in his ride of ten miles, but discovered that the trouble had been caused by a bear stepping on a hand spike that controlled the flow of water and thus shut it off.

Mr. Smith formally engaged in threshing after he settled on his farm, but when his outfit wore out he decided to follow that industry no longer. He has never married, but his long camping experience has made him more independent of a good cook's help than many who have not had it, and there are those of his friends who have sampled his dinners and declare they could not be improved on. The original writer of this sketch, however, regrets that it was necessary to decline with thanks the kind invitation extended to him to participate in one of these repasts which was being served at the time of the interview. Mr. Smith is a Republican in politics and has served as supervisor of the township. He belongs to the Odd Fellows' lodge at Addison.

HARRY KINGSLEY KIRK, a general farmer and stock raiser in Lost Creek Township, Miami County, residing on his farm of forty acres, owns several other adjoining properties and is one of the substantial men of this section. He was born May 28, 1868, at Catawba, Clark County, Ohio, and is a son of Rev. Eli and Ruth Ann (Moore) Kirk.

The Kirk family is of Scotch ancestry and possibly the grandfather, William Kirk, was born in Scotland. He was a resident of Brown County, Ohio, when his son Eli was born, and there the latter grew to manhood. He united early with the Methodist Episcopal Church and later became a minister in the Cincinnati Conference and preached at different points for a period covered by twelve years. He died when his son, Harry K., was a child a comparatively young man. He married Ruth Ann Moore, who was a daughter of Philip and Rebecca Moore, who came to Ohio from Pennsylvania in 1836 and settled in Lost Creek Township, Miami County. They had three children: Harry Kingsley; Dora, who died in 1890; and Mary, who died in 1903. She was the wife of John Marshall of Addison, Ohio, and is survived by one child, Ralph K. Eli Kirk died in 1870, but his widow survived to be seventy years of age, dying in 1906.

After his father died, Harry K. Kirk removed with his mother and two sisters to St. Paris, in Champaign County, where he attended school, taking a course of three years in the high school, after which he was employed for two years as a clerk by John Poorman in his dry goods store. Mr. Kirk then came to Miami County and bought the forty acres on which he has lived ever since, which is one-half of the old Moore farm, and to this he later added forty more acres, bought of the Fickes heirs, and fifty adjoining acres of the Weatherhead heirs. The Moore family came very early to Lost Creek Township, settling on the present farm when but five acres of the land had been partially cleared and when wild game still abounded in the forest. Philip Moore, the grandfather, was born and reared in Philadelphia County, Penna. His grandfather, Charles Moore, was killed at the battle of Germantown, in the Revolutionary War, being an old man at that time. Philip Moore brought his family to Ohio in 1836 and died in 1879 in Lost Creek Township. His wife's name was Rebecca Shutt and she died in 1885. They had eight children, namely: Joseph; William; Susan, who was the wife of James Mitchell; Charles; Ruth Ann, who was the mother of Mr. Kirk; George, who resides at St. Paris and served during the Civil War as a member of the 147th O. Vol. Inf.; John H., who was born January 30, 1840, on the Moore farm in Lost Creek Township, where he still resides, having never married; and Sarah, who also survives.

On December 28, 1892, Harry K. Kirk

was married to Miss Emma Nesbett, a daughter of James and Margaret Nesbett, of Troy, Ohio, and they have had four children: Harry Leon, Mabel, Mary and George, the eldest of whom died when aged thirteen months. Both Mr. Kirk and Mr. Moore are stanch Republicans.

JOSEPH A. CASSEL, residing on a well improved farm of 140 acres, which belongs jointly to himself and wife and is situated on the Covington-Polo turnpike road, and Piqua and Stillwater pike, two and one-half miles north of Covington, is one of the township's well known and respected citizens. He was born March 10, 1849, in Hancock County, Illinois, and is a son of John and Lydia (Hittle) Cassel.

The father of Mr. Cassel was a native of Pennsylvania and his mother of Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio. About 1848 John Cassel bought a farm in Hancock County, Illinois, and died there, Joseph Cassel being then an infant. After this bereavement, the latter's mother returned to Ohio and settled near Greenville, in Darke County, where she lived until her death.

Joseph Cassel had few educational opportunities in his boyhood. The death of his father left his mother with many cares and responsibilities and she was obliged to find homes for her children when she could no longer take care of them herself. Joseph was nine years old when he was taken into the family of his half-brother, Michael Cassel, with whom he remained until he was twelve years old, and being by that time able to be useful, found a home for some years with his other half-brothers. His boyhood and youth are recalled as seasons of much toil and few periods of recreation. After starting out independently, he worked for twenty-seven years as a farm hand and during this time he saved money and made many friends through the agricultural districts, friends he has kept to the present day.

On October 21, 1876, Mr. Cassel was married to Miss Nancy Mohler, who was born and reared one and one-half miles south of Greenville Falls, in Newton Township. Her parents were Henry and Hannah (Deeter) Mohler. Mr. and Mrs. Cassel have four children, namely: Hannah May, who is the wife of Frank Eberts, residing in Newberry Township, has three children—Leroy, Raymond and Frank; Martha Ann, who is the wife of Theodore Drake, has one son, Robert; and Mary Charlotte and John Henry, both of whom live at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Cassel moved on their present farm, which was formerly owned by Henry Mohler, on December 19, 1876, and they lived here for two years and then moved on a farm near Painter Creek, on which they resided for four years, when they returned to the home farm for several more years and then moved to Covington, where they own a comfortable home. In a few years they again came back to the farm and now they occupy both homes as they feel inclined. They are valued members of the German Baptist Church.

JOHN A. WIRRIG, owner of ninety-one and one-half acres of excellent land, situated two miles east of Piqua, was born in Warren County, Ohio, October 28, 1850, but has lived in Spring Creek Township, Miami County, almost all his life.

Baltzer Wirrig, father of John A., was born in France and was thirty-six years of age when he came to America. For a time he worked as a wheelwright and carpenter in New York, coming then to Cincinnati, where he worked five years as miller and millwright for the Shakers, in Warren County, Ohio. He made a trip that covered two years to the mining regions of California, but in September, 1868, bought the farm now owned by his son, John A., and moved on it in March, 1869. He died on this farm June 12, 1872. He married Margaretha Graf, a native of Bavaria, Germany, who was living in Cincinnati at that time. They had nine children and the four survivors are: Mary, Mrs. Knopple, residing at Dayton; John A.; Casper, residing at New Albany, Indiana; and Anna, residing at Dayton.

John A. Wirrig was just two years old when his parents came to Spring Creek Township, and here he attended school through his boyhood. For about four years he worked on the Northwestern Railroad near Chicago and then returned to Miami County and followed farming at different points until 1893. He purchased the homestead in 1898, and has been engaged in its cultivation and improvement ever since. He has greatly improved the place and has erected almost all of the substantial buildings now standing.

Mr. Wirrig was married at Chicago, May 19, 1874, to Miss Agnes Heuring, a daughter of John Heuring, of German extraction. They have had the following children: Joseph, who married Minnie Weingart, has three children—Helen, Ralph and Hilda; George C., who lives in Iowa; Karl, who resides at home; Anna, who lives in a Western State; Elward, who married Carlotta Hickey, lives in Pittsburg; Minnie and August, both reside at home; and William, who lives in Iowa. Mr. Wirrig and wife are members of the Catholic Church at Piqua. In his political views he is a Democrat.

JACOB C. KATHERMAN, one of Newberry Township's best known citizens and the owner of one of its finest farms, is proprietor of the Pleasant Ridge Farm, which is situated on the turnpike road which separates Darke from Miami County, and one mile north of Bradford, in the latter county. He was born on a farm in Adams Township, Darke County, Ohio, three miles west of his present place, June 21, 1867, and is a son of Jeremiah and Anna (Christian) Katherman.

Jacob C. Katherman was reared on his birthplace farm, on which his parents passed the whole period of their married life. In 1891 he moved to his farm in Newberry Township, making few improvements until 1903, when he started in to erect the substantial and appropriate farm buildings which do much to add to the value of this property and largely to its attractive appearance. His plans required the expenditure of a large amount of money, but Mr. Katherman had full confidence in himself and inspired it in others, so that he had no difficulty in borrowing the necessary $5,000 with which he made the improvements that he had in mind. This indebtedness is all paid and other improvements have been made, and Mr. Katherman is considered one of the substantial as well as one of the most reliable men of this section. In addition to carrying on a general agricultural line, since 1905 he has devoted a part of his eighty acres to pasturage, keeping twelve cows and carrying on dairying. He has

Photo by Matthews, Piqua.

DARIUS W. WEDDLE

been very active in promoting all agricultural progress in Miami County and for ten years served as a member of the Fair Board, from 1898 until 1908, during all this period working hard to make the agricultural expositions successful. His acquaintances and friends are many at Troy, Piqua and other points.

Mr. Katherman married Miss Ella Loxley, a daughter of B. F. and Phebe Ann (Kaylor) Loxley, and they have a family of seven children, namely: Ethel, who is the wife of Owen B. Smith; and Benjamin, Chloe, Jeremiah, Paul, Opal and Llora. Mr. Katherman was reared in the Dunkard Church, in which his father was a preacher. He is a prominent member of the Odd Fellows at Bradford.

CHARLES P. HOOVER, who has been successfully operating a stone quarry in Newberry Township, south of Covington, at the bridge that crosses the Stillwater River, for the past six years, owns six acres of land in this township, of which he is a representative citizen. Mr. Hoover was born on a farm in Darke County, Ohio, just west of his present place, May 21, 1851, and is a son of Absolom and Sarah (Patty) Hoover, and a grandson of Noah Hoover, who came from South Carolina.

The father of Mr. Hoover was a farmer and in clearing up his land was accidentally killed by the fall of a tree, May 28, 1856. His widow subsequently married N. W. Furnace, and is also deceased. When Charles P. Hoover was eleven years old he was taken to the home of Alfred Iddings, a farmer in Concord Township, Miami County, with whom he lived for two years, and later lived two years with Clark Adams. His mother then contracted her second marriage and moved to Newberry Township and then Charles returned to her and lived at home until 1870, assisting his stepfather, and under him learned the trade of stone-cutter. Mr. Hoover has worked at this trade ever since he was sixteen years of age and started out for himself at what is known as the Jackson quarries, in Newton Township. In large measure, Mr. Hoover is a self-made man and what he owns he has acquired through his own industry and good management.

When eighteen years of age, Mr. Hoover was married to Miss Sarah Curtis, who was born and reared at West Milton, the same place in which Mr. Hoover's father was born. Mrs. Hoover also lost her father in childhood. Mr. and Mrs. Hoover have three children: Mary Belle, William C. and Forrest R. Mary Belle is the wife of H. M. Williams of Covington, and they have four children—Helen, Lucille, Charles and Dwight. W. C. is in the Government service, being a clerk in the postoffice at Cincinnati. He married Edith Pifer of Gettysburg, Ohio, and they have one son, Farrin. Forrest R., residing at Covington, is agent and telegraph operator for the C., H. & D. Railroad. He married Tessie Wilson and they have one daughter, Mary Margaret. Mr. Hoover is an Odd Fellow.

DARIUS WILLIAM WEDDLE, whose splendid farm of 240 acres is situated in Section 17, Elizabeth Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is known as the Plain View Farm, was born in Floyd County, Virginia, November 13, 1848. His parents were Rev. John B. and Louanna (Simmons) Weddle.

Andrew Weddle, the grandfather, was

born in Germany and came to America with two brothers and settled in Floyd County, Virginia. He acquired some 1,500 acres and engaged extensively in farming and stock-raising. As was the German custom, his estate was so divided that his sons received the land and his daughters were given money. He married Nancy Boone, who was a daughter of the Indian fighter and Kentucky pioneer, Daniel Boone, and to this union were born eleven children, as follows: Samuel, Benjamin, Levi, John B., Sarah, Isaac, Joseph, Eliza, Josiah, and two of whom there is no record.

John B. Weddle received 179 acres of his father's homestead and was an independent farmer in Floyd County but left the management of his property to others as his duties as a minister of the German Baptist or Brethren Church kept him away from home for long seasons. He visited the sparsely settled parts of Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee, making his pastoral visits on horseback. He married Louanna Simmons, a daughter of Kara and Elizabeth Simmons, the former, Kara Simmons, lived to the age of seventy-six years and the latter completing all but four years of a century. Their burial took place on their own land in Floyd County. The children born to John B. Weddle and wife were: Lorenzo D., Darius William, Callahill M., LaFayette, Jabez and Ellen Catherine.

Darius William Weddle remembers the first school he attended, one of the subscription class, and the sessions were held in an old log building, in Floyd County, not far from his home. He was more ambitious than many of his schoolmates and prevailed upon his father to permit him to attend the graded school at Jacksonville for a year, after which he entered the Ashland Agricultural College, at Ashland, the old home of that great statesman, Henry Clay, and here he was instructed along the lines of scientific farming. Mr. Weddle completed his education in the National Normal School at Lebanon, Ohio. Then followed his marriage and settlement on his father-in-law's farm for one year, when he located on his present farm in the northwestern corner of Elizabeth Township. Mr. Weddle contracted at first to rent the place, which he did for two years, furnishing all his own tools, machinery, stock and seed, and receiving one-third of the crop as his share. He soon discovered that with his superior knowledge of agriculture he could make a fine showing on this land and first bought 160 acres of his father-in-law, then bought the additional eighty acres, from Mr. Studebaker's heirs, and thus came into possession of the whole property. All the excellent buildings now standing have been erected by Mr. Weddle, including his handsome two-story pressed brick house, which contains fourteen large well lighted and thoroughly ventilated rooms, with the exception of an old house and barn. He has set out two orchards, one of apple and one of plum and has small fruits in abundance. During 1907 and 1908 he engaged in tobacco-growing, in the last year devoting fifteen acres to the leaf, at the same time building a fine tobacco house. Had Mr. Weddle followed the methods of some of his neighbors, his farm would probably never have been more productive than theirs, for the land is naturally not very fertile. He recognized that he would have to build it up and also to drain a part of it, putting in 2,000 rods of tile. On his place he has proven the value of scientific farming and the benefits that accrue from systematic training.

On January 24, 1878, Mr. Weddle was married to Miss Anna W. Studebaker, a daughter of Rev. Isaac S. and Anna (Warner) Studebaker, of Elizabeth Township, and they have had eight children, namely: Harvey William, Albert S., James Arthur, Carrie Estella, Dora Lee; Louanna; Isaac S.; and Bessie Milicent. The following are deceased: Harvey William, James Arthur, Louanna.

Mr. and Mrs. Weddle are members of the Brethren Church, in which he is a deacon and trustee. In his political views he is a Republican but has never consented to accept any public office. He is a shrewd, capable man of business, broad minded on almost every question and a citizen of whom his township has reason to be proud.

B. F. SIMMONS, owner of a valuable farm of 240 acres in Brown Township, Miami County, Ohio, comes of one of the very earliest families of the county. He was born in Spring Creek Township July 24, 1848, and is a son of Peter Simmons. The family is of English origin and in America dates back to the coming of the Pilgrim Fathers in the Mayflower. It became established in Virginia, where it flourished many years, then migrated westward to Ohio, first locating in Cincinnati. The Simmonses came to Miami County when it was sparsely settled and almost wholly undeveloped, the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch entering all the land from Urbana Pike south one and a half miles and east one mile, including the square upon which Fletcher is situated; at that point he erected three houses. The great-grandmother of B. F. Simmons died near Staunton and was buried in a walnut log which had been split open and hewn out.

Peter Simmons was born in Brown Township, Miami County, Ohio, and there grew to manhood. He engaged in farming there until 1853, then moved with his family to Indiana, where he became owner of a forty-acre farm. After his death, his widow and her two sons returned to a farm in Brown Township, Miami County, Ohio.

B. F. Simmons, after his return from Indiana, lived with his uncle, L. R. Simmons, until his marriage, at which time he purchased a part of his present farm. He erected a house on the place and lived in it with his family until 1903, when he moved to his present place, on which he had erected a fine modern eight-room frame house. He also built a substantial bank barn, and made many other desirable improvements. He carries on general farming and makes a specialty of raising livestock, at which he has been very successful.

Mr. Simmons was united in marriage with Rachel Jane Sanders, who was born and reared on the western part of what is now her husband's farm, and is a daughter of Elihue and Margaret Sanders of Spring Creek Township. The following children were born to them: Elmer E., who died at the age of fourteen years; Effie M., deceased wife of A. E. Wilson; J. W. Simmons who is in the elevator business in Shelby County and is the father of one child, Majorie Ailene; Harry E., of Brown Township, who married Daisy Miller and has a daughter, Audrey Florence; F. W. Simmons, a resident of Dayton, has one son, Kenneth; and Charles L., who married Gertrude Motter. Religiously, the family belongs to the Christian Church. Mr. Simmons is a Democrat in politics, is a member of the School Board, and also of the County Agricultural Board. Fraternally, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Junior Order United American Mechanics. He belongs also to the National Horse-Thief Association.

CHARLES BOEHRINGER, a representative and substantial citizen of Covington, residing in his handsome two-story brick residence, which he erected in 1885, on the northeast corner of High and Bridge Streets, was born in Germany, February 13, 1842, and is a son of Jacob and Katrina (Voght) Boehringer.

After the death of the father of Mr. Boehringer, in Germany, the widow and ten children began to plan to emigrate to America. Several of the family came to the United States and settled at Philadelphia, where George engaged in work as a bridge carpenter for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company at first, but soon came to Covington. Charles remained in Germany with one sister and the mother until he was nineteen years old, and then they came together to America and joined those of the family then living at Philadelphia, each one, with German thrift, having found profitable employment. From Philadelphia, Charles came on to Covington to make a visit to his brother George, and after reaching here decided to remain. He learned the carpenter trade with his brother and worked with him for fifteen years. In 1878 he went back to Philadelphia, where he conducted a butcher business for two years, after which he returned to Covington and bought out the Levering butcher shop, and continued in the meat business for some eighteen years, and during this time was also interested in a stone quarry. Mr. Boehringer still retains the quarry and he owns also eighteen acres of very valuable land that is included in the corporate limits of Covington. He has acquired an ample fortune and all through the legitimate channels of business.

In 1865, Mr. Boehringer was married to Miss Margaret Wagner, who was born in Germany and was about eight years old when she was brought to America by her parents, Peter and Rosina (Buck) Wagner. Her parents both died in Covington, where her father conducted a shoe store for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Boehringer have five children, namely: Peter, who is in the restaurant business at Covington; Rosie, who is the wife of Charles Koon, of Covington; Edward, who follows a blacksmith business; Harry, who engages in tobacco growing on his father's land, has a family of his own. Mr. and Mrs. Boehringer are members of the Lutheran Church. In politics he has always been a strong Democrat and has served very acceptably as a member of the city council, for several terms.

A. L. CODDINGTON is a prosperous farmer of Brown Township, Miami County, Ohio, and resides on the old Coddington home place, which comprises 280 acres of valuable land. He was born on the place where he now lives, July 5, 1873, and is a son of James H. and Jane (Morris) Coddington.

James H. Coddington was born on the south eighty acres of his present farm, which his father, David Coddington, purchased after his arrival in Miami County. He was but a child when the latter died. He attended the common schools of Brown Township and then went out to make his way in the world. He worked for a time for his uncle, John Hill, and some time later bought out the other heirs' interests in the eighty acres owned by his father. To this he added 200 acres which he purchased from Thornton and John Lucas, making a fine property acquired solely through his own industry and enterprise and also acquired a ninety-six-acre tract in Brown Township. He is retired from business activity, but continues to reside on a part of the old place. He was married to Jane Morris of Champaign County, and they became parents of three children, as follows: Edward F., who lives in Columbus and fills the chair of Mathematics in Ohio State University; A. L., whose name heads this sketch; and C. Harvey, who owns and conducts a farm in Champaign County, Ohio.

A. L. Coddington attended the public schools of Brown Township, the village schools at Conover and the Lena High School, after which he pursued an agricultural course in the Ohio State University. This was supplemented by a commercial course at Sidney, Ohio, after which he was for seven years employed as bookkeeper at Cleveland, Ohio. In 1908, he returned to the home farm, of which he has since had charge. He farms along scientific lines with good results and is also quite extensively engaged in stock raising. He is the owner of a well known stallion, Young Senator, and has other thoroughbred stock.

Mr. Coddington was united in marriage with Miss Lillian A. Williams, a native of Shelby County, Ohio, and they have had two daughters: Elsa Modjeska, who died May 4, 1909, aged seven years and six months; and Lillian Ethel, who was born October 11, 1902. Politically, Mr. Coddington is a Democrat and takes a deep interest in the successes of that party.

LEWIS F. WOLCOTT, owner of 105 acres lying south of Conover, in Brown Township, has one of the best improved farms in that part of the county. He comes of an old and respected family of Miami County, and was born on the farm lying on the opposite side of the road from his present place, January 2, 1853. He is a son of Benjamin L. and Jane E. (Boyd) Wolcott, and a grandson of John H. and Sarah (James) Wolcott.

John H. Wolcott came to Miami County, Ohio, from Warren County, Ohio, some years after his marriage, and became prominent among the early citizens and farmers of Brown Township. He was one of the county's early surveyors and served for a time as county surveyor; he also was among the first to conduct a nursery in the county. His death occurred here at the age of eighty-two years, and his wife, who was Sarah James in maiden life, died at the advanced age of ninety-three years. They were parents of seven children.

Benjamin L. Wolcott was born in Warren County, Ohio, and was about two years old when brought by his parents to Miami County. He was reared in Brown Township, where he attended the public schools, and during his early business career engaged in carpentering. About 1861 or 1862, he turned his attention to farming on the old home place, and there continued without interruption until his death at the age of eighty-two years. He was married to Jane E. Boyd, who was born in Champaign County, Ohio, and died at the early age of thirty-nine years. The following children were the offspring of their marriage: William, who died young; John G., who lives in Champaign County; Lewis F.; Emily Jane, who is the wife of John Michael and lives in Shelby County, Ohio; and Jerrod, who lives on the old home place in Brown Township. Benjamin L. Wolcott was the owner of eighty acres at the time of his death.

Lewis F. Wolcott attended the public schools of his home community, after which he worked on his father's farm. In 1873 he purchased his present farm, but did not move on it until 1880, some two years after his marriage. He erected the splendid home which adorns the place, and the other substantial farm buildings, converting it into one of the best improved places in the community. He has followed general farming and stock raising along modern and approved lines, and has been more than ordinarily successful.

Mr. Wolcott was first married in 1878 to Miss Rachael Evans, who died without issue on October 20, 1880. In 1883 he formed a second union with Miss Susan Kinsey of Montgomery County, Ohio. Religiously they are members of the Baptist Church at Lena. Mr. Wolcott is a Republican in politics, and fraternally is affiliated with the Masonic lodge at Lena.

DAVID B. LANDIS, senior member of the firm of D. B. & W. M. Landis, funeral directors, established his present business in Covington, June 19, 1889, and has followed same continuously since that time. He was born August 31, 1850, near West Milton, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of John and Anna (Bashor) Landis.

John Landis, father of our subject, was born on a farm in West Charleston, near Tippecanoe City, Ohio, a son of David Landis, who was a native of Pennsylvania. He was a farmer by occupation and died in 1866, being survived by his widow, who resides four miles west of Tippecanoe City, Miami County. She was born in Pennsylvania August 12, 1821, and when a girl came to this county with her parents.

David B. Landis was reared to maturity on his father's farm, remaining at home until about eighteen years of age, and then learned the carpenter's trade at Bradford. After leaving the parental roof, he located for a time near Pleasant Hill, and for the past forty years has followed carpentering and general contracting in connection with his undertaking establishment, taking, in 1907, his cousin, W. M. Landis, as a partner in the undertaking business.

David B. Landis was united in marriage, May 8, 1870, to Frances Kendig, who was born in Pennsylvania and at the age of four years came to Covington with her parents, Reuben and Mary (Lenhart) Kendig. Her father was a farmer and butcher by occupation and died on October 21, 1880, the mother's death occurring November 21, 1871. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Landis: Viola, married Oscar Johnson and has two children—Oscar M. and Ferrel Amanda; and Anna Merle, who was first united in marriage with Charles F. Deeter, by whom she has one child, Frances. About two years after the death of her husband, Mrs. Deeter, while attending school at Huntington, Pennsylvania, met Samuel C. Gnagey, who came to Miami

County in 1906, from Maryland, and whom she later married. They reside at West Milton, Ohio, and have one child, Susan Ruth. Mr. Landis stands high in the estimation of his fellow citizens and is one of the leading business men of Covington. He is a member of the Church of the Brethren.

SAMUEL D. ROYER, representative citizen and retired farmer of Newberry Township, residing on his farm of sixty-two acres, which lies just east of the Brethren Church, north of Bradford, was born on a farm in Union County, Pennsylvania, June 3, 1840, and is a son of Jacob and Susanna (Myers) Royer, both of whom died in Union County.

Samuel D. Royer was reared in his native place and obtained a good common school education. Both he and his brother, J. G. Royer, a prominent retired citizen of Mt. Morris, Illinois, engaged in teaching school after their own school-days were over. Samuel D. taught only four months and then came to Darke County, reaching here in the spring of 1864, since which time until he retired he engaged in farming. J. G. Royer was a teacher for fifty years, following that profession in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, and when he finally retired from the educational field he was president of Mt. Morris College at Mt. Morris, Illinois. Samuel D. Royer was married in the year following his settlement in Ohio and located first on the old Jerry Katherman farm in Darke County, which he operated for five years, when he moved on the Jacob Senseman farm, southwest of Bradford, and lived there for two and one-half years. In August, 1873, he moved to his farm in Newberry Township that is now owned by his daughter and husband, and came from there to his present place, January 31, 1907. This farm he has greatly improved, all the substantial buildings having been erected by himself.

Mr. Royer was married in Darke County, Ohio, in 1865, to Miss Mary Mummert, a daughter of Joseph and sister of John Mummert, and they have one child, Catherine. She married D. I. Hoover and they have two children: Mary Etta and Harley, both of whom are graduates of Mt. Morris College of the class of 1909. Mr. Hoover was a native of Darke County. He is a man of considerable prominence in this section, being one of the directors of the Bradford Home Telephone Company, a director in the Bradford National Bank and one of the trustees of the Brethren Cemetery. For twenty-four years Mr. Royer has been a minister in the Brethren Church and few men are better known or more highly esteemed through Miami and Darke Counties.

DANIEL BOYER, owner of 108 acres of very valuable farming land, which is divided into three tracts, all situated in Newberry Township, Miami County, lives on a five-acre lot which lies about four and one-half miles northwest of Covington. He was born in York County, Pennsylvania, June 11, 1857, and is a son of Mannasse and Lavina (Luckenbaugh) Boyer.

When Mr. Boyer was about seven years of age, his parents moved to Ohio and settled in Darke County, and lived on different farms there. The father still resides in Darke County. The mother died in January, 1903. Daniel Boyer attended the country schools as opportunity offered and grew to manhood well acquainted with every detail of farming. After his marriage, in 1881, Mr. Boyer rented his father's farm of 160 acres in Darke County, for six years. In 1887 he moved to Newberry Township, Miami County, and has resided here ever since. One of his farms, containing forty acres, is the old homestead farm of his wife and it is now operated by his son, Clarence. A second farm he has under rental, while, although practically retired, he manages the home place himself. Here he has done a large amount of improving. His fine frame residence he has equipped with a furnace and a light plant and it is one of the most modern rural residences in this section.

In 1881 Mr. Boyer was married to Miss Mary Ellen Crowel, a daughter of John Crowel, a prominent farmer of Newberry Township. They have had six children, namely: Ira Olonzo, who is in the farm implement business at Gettysburg, Ohio, married Daisy Horner and they have one child, Gertrude; Clarence Homer, who operates the old Crowel farm, as mentioned above, married Florence Flory; Eva Venorah, who is the wife of Harry Christian, of Covington, has one child, Harry Gerald; John Lowell and Linus Leonard, both of whom reside at home; and Lova Catherine, who died at the age of one year, seven months and nine days. Mr. Boyer and family belong to the German Baptist Church.

WILLIAM GAHAGAN, soldier hero and pioneer of Montgomery and Miami Counties. Of this historical character we have received the following account through one of his descendants:

Of good Scotch-Irish stock he had been reared under Presbyterian influences in Western Pennsylvania, and when nineteen years old came down the river to join Wayne's army, in which he served with distinction through the war. In the spring of 1794 we find him with Benjamin Van Cleve in charge of a portion of a fleet of twelve boats under Captain Hugh Wilson, commissary of an expedition under escort of a detachment of troops carrying provisions and supplies from Cincinnati to Fort Massac. Young Gahagan, a dashing fellow, fearless and possessing a level head that carried him through every emergency, was bearer of duplicate despatches from General Wayne to Fort Washington to be forwarded to authorities in Washington City. While passing from Fort Loramie down the Miami, his horse was disabled by a shot from a lurking foe, who, seeing that he had not killed Gahagan, fled precipitately. Gahagan, mindful of his responsibility as a messenger, made the rest of the journey on foot, eighty-five miles, to Cincinnati; for which service he received the highest commendation on his return to the army. With the same rifle that he carried on that lonely, perilous journey, he fought in the ranks to final victory under Wayne on the Maumee, and it ever rested in a conspicuous place in his cabin at Dayton, and for forty years was a war relic in his home near Troy.

Upon honorable discharge from the army at the close of the war Mr. Gahagan took service with former comrades Van Cleve and Mercer, as hunter for the corps of surveyors under Captain John Dunlap, running township and range lines between the Miami and Mad Rivers, and later in the field work west of the Miami, from Fort Hamilton to Fort Recovery. In the spring of 1796 he came with the Thompson, Van Cleve and McClure families, sharing privations and perils that bound them in close friendship for life.

Mr. Gahagan was the jolly man of the party of first settlers and his popularity increased with the growth of the settlement, he being universally liked for his good natured ways and readiness to lend a helping hand whenever occasion offered in the ten years of his residence here and in the Mad River neighborhood.

One of the conditions named to induce the State commissioner to make Dayton the county seat was that Main Street, from the river to Fifth Street, should be cleared of timber and graded. The trunks of trees hauled from clearing the street were rolled into the mud, then in places three logs high earth was filled in and the road graded. Mr. Gahagan became overseer of the work, at first free of charge, then under pay by contract.

Finding that he could not push his contract to completion, Mr. Gahagan and family moved to Miami County, he having entered a section of prairie and timber land which came to be known as "Gahagan's Prairie," on the Miami across from the "Dutch Station"—Staunton, and immediately east of the site of the present city of Troy. This was the ground where ten years before his faithful horse was shot and from whence he started on his journey to Cincinnati on foot. This prairie had been tilled by the Indians, then beginning with the spring of 1799, by John Knoop, Benjamin Knoop, Henry Gerard, Benjamin Hamlet and John Tilden for five years, when Mr. Gahagan and family took possession in 1805. The deed to the land was not issued to him until four years later and was signed December 1, 1809, by James Madison, president of the United States. A few years later he purchased a large tract of land upon which the business portion of Troy now stands.

The Gahagan land, being so favorably located, no great effort was required to influence the commissioners to purchase thirty acres at nominal price to establish Troy, in the center of his heavy timber as the seat of justice for Miami County.

Mr. and Mrs. Gahagan decided to unite with others in forming a Methodist class and building a meeting-house in Troy, and they donated a lot on the corner of Main and Clay Streets for the purpose.

They donated to the village for burying grounds the four-acre lot on which now stands the Eastern Schoolhouse, the ground to revert to his heirs when abandoned as a place of burial. When the time came for establishing a larger cemetery, the heirs of William H., John Gahagan and Polly Clark decided that the old burying ground should remain public property as donated by their father. The friends of the deceased, who were living, removed all their own dead, and those unclaimed were removed by the city, so that the grounds were cleared ready for the new school building, and a playground for the children. The beautiful grove of forest trees was left undisturbed, a part of the grounds were filled, graded and other trees planted thereon. It is one of the attractive school grounds in the city and is known as the Forest School Building.

He also assisted in establishing Rose Hill Cemetery, north of town, and in which lie his remains, the grave being marked by a plain limestone slab which bears his name, William Gahagan. Although he had been a member of the Presbyterian congregation at Dayton, and of the Methodist congregation at Troy, he did not become a member of either church.

In the winter of 1803-04 he married Nancy Hamer, daughter of William Hamer, the first Methodist class leader in the Dayton settlement. His first child, William Hamer Gahagan, was born March 16, 1805, in Dayton, Montgomery County.

Two other sons, John and Solomon, and one daughter, Polly, were born in Miami County. They lived and died on the land inherited from their father, who braved the perils of frontier life to make their home.

William Hamer, the first born, married Hester Culbertson, whom he always called "Hetty Pet;" to them were born five children: Anna, who married David Cory, of New Carlisle, has two sons living, Thomas Harrison, and Edward Everett. Two other daughters, Mary and Jane, married two Peterson brothers, Alexander, and William. Jane had three children, "Hetty Pet," Harry Gahagan and Clarence Wilson Peterson. Emma Gahagan married James Moorhead of New Carlisle in 1864, and died in Troy, 1908. The only son who lived to manhood was William Henry Harrison Gahagan, born November 14, 1835. He married Hannah Smith of New Carlisle. Of their three children, the oldest, Walter Hamer, is a civil engineer and contractor of New York City, and has twin sons, William Corthell and Frederick Mussen, and two daughters, Helen and Lillian. The oldest daughter, Mary Gahagan, married George Clyde, son of Judge W. J. Clyde of Troy, and Bessie Gahagan married C. W. Schaible, of Troy. The twin sons of Walter Hamer Gahagan are the only ones to perpetuate the name and memory of their great-great-grandfather, William Gahagan, pioneer, and one of the founders of the county seat of Miami County—honored hero of General Wayne's army.

John Gahagan left one daughter, Clara Maria Gahagan, who was married to William Senour, of Kentucky, in 1853, and left one son, John Gahagan Senour, born July 4, 1854, died April 21, 1904. He was for many years a prominent physician in the city of Troy. He left one living child, Laura Beall Senour, direct descendant of William Gahagan, who died in 1845.

Solomon, third son of William and Nancy Hamer Gahagan, went to New Orleans with a boatload of produce, loading the boat on the Great Miami River on their own ground. He never was heard from afterwards. A diligent search by William failed to find any trace of his movements after he pushed off from shore at their own landing. It was generally supposed he had been robbed and murdered by some of the numerous pirates who infested the rivers and preyed upon the shippers.

THE PIQUA HANDLE & MANUFACTURING COMPANY, of Piqua, Ohio, manufacturers of all kinds of Farming Tool Handles, including Long and D Handles — Lawn Mower Handles — Carpet Sweeper Handles—Wood Turnings, etc., is one of the leading industries of Miami County and the largest manufactory of wood turnery and specialties in the world. It has three plants—at Piqua, Ohio, Thompsonville, Mich., and Osceola, Ark., and offices in New York City, the main plant and home office being at Piqua, Ohio.

The business was established in 1880 in a small building on River Street. In 1886 the company removed to its present location, which has been greatly enlarged and improved since then, the buildings and yards covering an entire city block. In 1903 branch plants were established in Thompsonville, Mich., and Osceola, Ark., owing to the scarcity of raw material. Hence their raw material at the present time is drawn from Ohio, Indiana, Michigan and Arkansas. In the three plants from 300 to 500 men are employed. Their product is shipped to all parts of the world. "Piqua" Handles are known everywhere; excellent quality and high class workmanship have won for them a place on the market second to none.

The expansion of the factories, the increased volume of business, and the results attained each year speak well for the strong and able management of the officers, who are as follows: William Cook Rogers, president and general manager; A. M. Leonard, vice-president; J. F. Stewart, second vice-president; C. H. Barnett, secretary; and R. L. Douglas, treasurer.

DAVID MANSON, an honored and highly esteemed citizen of Spring Creek Township, residing on a fine farm of eighty acres, located four miles east of Piqua, was born June 11, 1823, near Fletcher, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Martin and Catherine (Smith) Manson.

Martin Manson was reared about one and a half miles east of Fletcher and was there engaged in agricultural pursuits throughout his entire life. He married Catherine Smith and they reared a family of five sons and three daughters, of whom three sons and one daughter reside in Kansas.

David Manson, the subject of this record, grew to maturity on his father's farm near Fletcher, and attended the district schools of the township, also assisting his father with the work on the farm. He then located for a period of five years on a farm in Spring Creek Township, returning to the home place after the death of his parents. Later he purchased his present farm of eighty acres in Spring Creek Township, where he has since continued to reside. He has always followed general farming and stock buying, and has one of the best improved farms in the township, his fine brick residence, and that of Mr. Millhouse, being the only two modern brick dwellings in this section of the county.

Mr. Manson was united in marriage with Elizabeth Covault, a daughter of Thomas Covault, of Miami County, and to them were born the following children: James Lewis, deceased; John H.; Harley; Memory; Catherine; Belle, deceased; Isa; and Rillie. Mrs. Manson died February 5, 1909. Mr. Manson is a Democrat in politics and served for thirteen years as trustee of Spring Creek Township.

FRED B. MAGILL, proprietor of the Piqua Egg Farm, is conducting an enterprise which he has developed from a small beginning to one of very large proportions, and now owns the largest poultry plant in Miami County. He was born at Avondale, near Cincinnati.

After graduating from Deveaux College, New York, in 1886, Mr. Magill returned to Cincinnati and became identified with a scientific body for which he traveled for some time, collecting specimens of insects and of large game. In 1890 he went west, living for some time at Omaha and later on a ranch, and for a year and a half lived in a house-boat. This he launched at Des

Moines, Iowa, and in it traversed the Mississippi and the Missouri Rivers and went as far south as Arkansas, making a great collection of insects, birds and Indian relics. He is a born naturalist and the years he has spent in scientific work have been delightful ones to him and have added very largely to the general knowledge of the country on these subjects. His travels have led him all over the United States, and there are few important scientific bodies in which his name is not held in high esteem. He has a remarkable collection and permits students to visit it, imparting information which is never found in text books. In 1901 Mr. Magill came to Piqua, buying five acres of land at that time, on which he started his poultry business. He breeds the White Wyandotte birds, having a building for the same which is 500 feet long, and here raises from 2,000 to 3,000 broods a year. Mr. Magill is a member of the Episcopal Church and was confirmed by Bishop Cox, of the Western Diocese of New York.

JOHN H. COON, one of Newton Township's most prominent citizens, the owner of a valuable farm of sixty-eight acres situated in Sections 19 and 30, is also proprietor of the famous artesian well, which is on his farm and is located two and one-half miles south of Pleasant Hill and one mile west of the Dayton, Covington and Piqua traction line. Mr. Coon was born October 4, 1851, in Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of William Harrison and Elizabeth (Hawn) Coon.

William Harrison Coon was born in Virginia. After marriage he moved to Allen County, Ohio, where he worked as a blacksmith until he enlisted for service in the Civil War, going out as a member of Company E, Thirteenth O. Vol. Inf., and continued in the service for four years. He survived all the dangers and hardships of war, meeting with but one injury, in one battle having the point of his ear shot off. He returned to Ohio and settled in Bethel Township, Miami County, near New Carlisle, following farming to some extent and also working at his trade. He then moved to a place southwest of Troy, where he worked as a blacksmith for three years, moving then to within one mile west of Troy, remaining there for three years, when he sold out and bought the farm located one and one-half miles east of his son's farm, on which he lived for the seven years preceding his death. In politics he was a Democrat, and fraternally he was a Mason. He belonged also to the local Grange and was a consistent member of the Christian Church. He married Elizabeth Hawn, a daughter of Jonathan Hawn, and they had five children, John H., Mary, George, William and Rebecca. Both parents were buried in the Riverside Cemetery at Troy.

John H. Coon was educated in the country schools, after which, with the help of his brothers, he did a large part of the work on his father's farm, the latter being engaged at his trade. In farming, hauling wood and attending to stock, Mr. Coon worked at home until he was twenty-two years of age, after which he worked as a farm hand for about four years. After his marriage he resided for one year on his father-in-law's farm, three miles west of Troy, moving from there to a rented farm on the edge of Bradford, and one year later moved to a farm in Union Township. Two years afterward he moved on the Harter farm, situated one and one-half miles west of Troy, and in 1907 he purchased a sixty-acre farm in Newton Township and operated it for two years. Mr. Coon then moved to Pleasant Hill, and during the two years he lived there was engaged in a plumbing business, and then moved back to his present farm. He cleared about twenty acres and put in 300 rods of tile, which gives the land excellent drainage. Later he purchased eight acres additional, and on this tract is situated the notable artesian spring mentioned above. The improvements on the farm Mr. Coon has placed here. He is not actively interested in farming, having a tenant who is a practical agriculturist, thus relieving Mr. Coon and giving him time to perfect his plans in connection with the artesian well.

Two miles southwest of Pleasant Hill was once located an Indian fort, and the almost perpendicular bank of the Stillwater River on the east and the deep, narrow gully on the north, made it an ideal spot for such a structure. A few rods above the fort, in the bottom of the gully is a small island, and in the center of this little tract is the medicated spring, now the property of Mr. Coon. The curative effects of this water have long been known in this section, but its value has not been exploited to any extent until recently. In November, 1907, Mr. Coon, with commendable business enterprise, drilled a well near the spring and later had the water analyzed by a leading chemist. The value of this water in the cure of many of the most distressing diseases was proved by this anaylsis. With this encouragement, Mr. Coon is making preparations to make heavy investments, and if his plans are perfected, all this section will profit by the presence of visitors who will come from every point. It is confidently believed that those who come sick will return home well, and Mr. Coon intends to provide comfortable accommodations for these guests. Nature has done much to make such an enterprise here successful, the well being situated in the picturesque Miami Valley, famed in song and story.

Mr. Coon was married to Miss Rachel Correy, a daughter of Robert and Rebecca Correy, and they have five children: Robert, who is engaged in business at Chicago, Illinois; Jennie, who resides at Piqua; Mary and Goldie, both of whom reside at home; and Lillie, who is a member of the class of 1913, in the High School at Pleasant Hill. Mr. Coon and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Pleasant Hill, of which he has been a trustee for a number of years. He is a Democrat in politics.

J. A. KERR, who is a leading member of the Miami County bar—senior member of the law firm of Kerr & Kerr—is one of the representative citizens of Tippecanoe City. He was born at Chambersburg, Montgomery County, Ohio, July 7, 1853, son of Jonathan T. and Matilda (Westlake) Kerr.

The Kerr family originated in Ireland, and the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch was George Kerr, who was born in County Kerry, near the famous Lakes of Killarney. Prior to crossing the Atlantic Ocean he married Martha Newel and they reached the American colonies just before the Revolutionary War. He joined the patriot army, and after peace was declared moved to the Western Reserve, becoming one of the earliest settlers at Marietta. From there, in 1814, he moved to Lebanon, Ohio. Those were still dangerous times on the border for pioneers, and Mr. Kerr had to witness the cruel massacre of his aged father, who had accompanied him from Ireland.

Jonathan T. Kerr, father of J. A., was a son of James and a grandson of George Kerr. He was born in Miami County, Ohio, March 11, 1828, and in 1851 he married Matilda Westlake, who was a daughter of Colonel Westlake, one of the early settlers in this section. J. A. Kerr was the second-born in their family of five sons and one daughter.

Mr. Kerr's boyhood was passed on the home farm and he grew up with all the advantages accruing from plenty of physical exercise and strict parental discipline. When he was about sixteen years of age he entered the National Normal School at Lebanon, Ohio, where he passed one winter, during this period learning the science of surveying and the art of stenography, which he put to practical use later on.

He first began the study of law in 1872 and in 1875 he was admitted to practice in the State of Ohio, and later to the United States courts. In that year also he established his residence at Tippecanoe City, where he has since remained. The other member of the firm of Kerr & Kerr is his son Floyd, who was graduated from the United States University in 1904. Since its organization the firm has gained well deserved recognition, having successfully handled some important litigation. Mr. Kerr's achievements along professional lines are the more creditable as they are the result of hard work and perseverance. Although since early manhood he has been in close sympathy with the purposes and leading principles of the Democratic party, he has taken an active part in politics but has never sought office.

In 1874 Mr. Kerr was married to Elizabeth Jane Coats, a daughter of Lemuel and Rosa (Pearson) Coats, of an old pioneer family. In 1881 and 1882 he was owner of the Troy *Democrat*, a daily paper of Miami County, and later was interested in the same and acted as editor for two years, with George Long, M. K. Gantz and C. M. Davis. He was also manager of the Piqua *Daily Dispatch* and *Weekly Journal*, and at one time owned and edited the Troy *Chronicle* and *Daily*, at Troy, Ohio.

J. C. WHITE, a general farmer and well known citizen of Spring Creek Township, resides on his farm, which is situated three and one-half miles northeast of Piqua, and was born June 19, 1844, in Franklin County, Ohio, ten miles east of Columbus. His parents were Jeremiah and Elizabeth (Childs) White.

Jeremiah White was a man of education and talent. He was born in Defiance County, and after the death of his father, came to Franklin County, teaching school, farming, studying and practicing law and serving as justice of the peace. For fifteen years he was minister in the Christian Union Church. In 1855 he moved from Franklin to Auglaize County, and died there when aged seventy-five years. He married a daughter of John Childs, in Franklin County, and they had nine children, the survivors being: J. C., Mrs. Elizabeth McAdams, Mrs. Hannah Armstrong, and George W.

J. C. White was eleven years old when his parents moved to Auglaize County, where he completed his school attendance,

E. E. PEARSON

and he assisted on the home farm until he was twenty-five years of age. He then came to Spring Creek Township, and has been on his present farm for a quarter of a century. Mr. White was married first to a Miss Coon, who left six children. His second marriage was to Miss Elizabeth Denman, a daughter of Gilman and Rebecca Denman, and six children were born to this union, the respective names of all the children being as follows: Gertrude, Stephen, Wilson, James, Jeremiah, Ferdinand, Goldie, Myrtle, William, Vernon, Charles and Forrest, all of whom survive except James and William. Mr. White and family are members of the United Presbyterian Church. In politics he is a Democrat.

E. E. PEARSON, auditor of Miami County, Ohio, and a representative citizen of Troy, which has been his home for a quarter of a century, was born in July, 1864, in Union Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Horatio Pearson. Few of the older citizens of Miami County are better known than is the venerable father of Mr. Pearson, who lives retired on his farm in Union Township, where he was born in 1836. For seven years he was auditor of Miami County and for many years was a successful teacher. In many sections he was the pioneer teacher and all over the county may be found those who, in their youth, were instructed by him and still recall him with feelings of respect.

E. E. Pearson remained on the home farm until he was nineteen years of age and then came to Troy, becoming at that age deputy auditor and serving continuously in that capacity for nineteen years. In November, 1901, he was first elected county auditor; he was reëlected in 1904, and his present term expires in October, 1909. He is interested in various business enterprises in the county and ever since reaching manhood, has taken an active part in politics. He is one of the most popular officials that Miami County has ever had.

In March, 1885, Mr. Pearson was married to Miss Coquese Wilmington, of Terre Haute, Indiana, and they have one daughter, Ruth, who resides at home. Mr. Pearson is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Elks and the Troy Club.

CALVIN SHARP, a well known farmer and tobacco raiser of Union Township, Miami County, Ohio, is the owner of a farm of forty-nine acres located on the corporation line of Potsdam. He was born in Darke County, Ohio, January 25, 1853, and is a son of Levi and Elizabeth (Neighley) Sharp. His paternal grandfather moved from North Carolina to Darke County, Ohio, where he was among the pioneer settlers.

Levi Sharp was born near Gordon, in Darke County, Ohio, and was about four years of age when his parents moved to the vicinity of Arcanum, where he grew to maturity and lived the remainder of his life, dying at the age of seventy-two years. He always followed farming and was the owner of the farm which is now in the possession of his widow. His marriage with Elizabeth Neighley was blessed with ten children.

Calvin Sharp attended the public schools of Darke County, and after leaving school followed farming on the home place for a time. He continued to farm in Darke

County until 1872, when he moved to Union Township, Miami County. For fifteen years he farmed the place opposite his present home, which he purchased in 1900 and moved upon in 1901. He has made many improvements on the place, including the erection of tobacco sheds. He has about eight acres in tobacco, and in addition to raising that product, follows general farming.

Mr. Sharp was united in marriage with Miss Liza Jane Harshbarger, and they have three children, as follows: Ida May, married Parker John, and has three children, Cletus, Edgar and John Dale; Oliver Oral, who resides on the farm across the road from his parents, married Bessie Warner, and has two children, Ruth and Delmar; Elizabeth Imo lives at home. Daniel B. Warner, a cousin of Mr. Sharp, has lived with him since he was twelve years old. Politically the subject of this sketch is a Republican.

D. M. MILES, who carries on general farming on the Manson farm, which is located about four miles east of Piqua, is a native of Miami County and was born January 12, 1873, near Casstown, Ohio, and is a son of Morris and Sarah (Jones) Miles.

Morris Miles was born in Perry County, Pennsylvania, and when quite small came to Ohio with his father, Jonathan Miles, a wagon maker by trade, who located at Tippecanoe City. Here he was reared and educated and subsequently engaged in the nursery business for several years. At the beginning of the Civil War he enlisted in Company E, Forty-fourth Ohio Vol. Inf., and after three years' service reenlisted in the cavalry, serving in all a period of four years. He participated in many of the leading battles and was for a time confined in Libby Prison. Upon returning home from the war he married Sarah Jones, a daughter of A. Jones, who was a well known farmer of this section of Miami County. He then located on a farm owned by his wife, about three miles from Casstown, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits the remainder of his life. He died at the age of sixty-nine and his wife died at Troy, aged sixty-eight years. They were the parents of the following children: Julia A., married E. C. McMillen and resides at Troy; Ella May, married W. Smithley, a farmer of Miami County; D. H., married Mildred Otoums, of Portland, Oregon; D. M., subject of this record; and Homer, who died in infancy.

D. M. Miles, our subject, obtained his educational training in the district schools of the county, afterwards working on the home place until the time of his marriage at the age of twenty-five years with Rillie M. Manson, when he removed to his present farm, where he has since carried on farming in a general way and makes a specialty of buying and shipping hay and straw. Mr. and Mrs. Miles are the parents of three children: Offa A., Leila B. and John A. Mr. Miles is politically identified with the Republican party, and has served in various township offices. He is fraternally a member of the I. O. O. F.

J. R. ECHELBARGER, M. D., a well-established physician in active practice at Fletcher, Ohio, was born near Jerry City, Wood County, Ohio, October 12, 1874, and is a son of John F. and Sarah Jane (Frederick) Echelbarger. The parents of Dr. Echelbarger were prominent farming people in Wood County for many years and the mother still occupies the old homestead. The father was a highly respected citizen near Jerry City and the family received general sympathy when he was killed by a stroke of lightning on May 29, 1908. The family consists of six sons and two daughters, all of whom survive.

Dr. Echelbarger attended school in Wood County until he was eighteen years of age, after which he engaged there in teaching school for ten years, in the meanwhile completing his own education at the Ohio Normal University at Ada, where he was graduated in the literary course in 1897. He was also at times a student at Lebanon, Ohio, and Valparaiso, and while preparing for his medical course engaged in an insurance business and had other interests prior to entering Starling Medical College, where he was graduated in 1906. He located first at Jeffersonville, Ohio, where he practiced for five months and came to Fletcher on December 10, 1906, where he divides the practice with Dr. Kiser. He is identified with medical organizations and keeps fully abreast of the times in the progress made by his science. Dr. Echelbarger was married to Miss Rae Bennett, of Noble County, Ohio, and they have one daughter, Pauline. In politics he is a Democrat. Fraternally he belongs to the Odd Fellows and the Junior Order of American Mechanics.

W. W. SANDO, owner and proprietor of the W. W. Sando Tile Works and sawmill, at Bloomer, enjoys the distinction of being the pioneer business man at this point and his was the first family to establish a home in what is now a flourishing town. The Sando family has been identified with almost every enterprise and public movement that has been useful in the development of this section. W. W. Sando was born April 6, 1857, on a farm in Darke County, Ohio, and is a son of Samuel and Celia D. (Hill) Sando.

Samuel Sando was born in Darke County, Ohio, on the small farm of his father, Joseph Sando, who had come from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, to Darke County in early manhood. Joseph Sando was a carpenter by trade. Samuel Sando began to operate a sawmill in Darke County in 1857, and continued in that business until his operations were transferred to Bloomer. He survived until April 18, 1909, at the age of seventy-five years. His widow and five of his ten children are living.

In November, 1880, several months after W. W. Sando moved to Bloomer, the C., H. & D. Railroad put in connection with the village. For a number of years there had been a country post-office established a little south of the present town and it was known as Bloomertown and for several years after it was transferred to the point around which the business of the place centered it was still called by the old name which later was lawfully shortened to Bloomer. In July, 1880, W. W. Sando moved his sawmill to this place and one week later his father followed and they conducted a partnership business until 1894, when the younger Sando bought the older's entire interest. In February, 1881, the partners opened up a store in a building they had put up and conducted it until the latter part of 1882, when it was sold to Martin A. Peterseim, who continues in the business. In 1883 the two progressive Sandos began the manufacture of tile, which has been developed into one of the main enterprises of the place. In 1906 Mr. Sando remodeled his kiln and factory and gives constant employment to a considerable force. Mr. Sando has been very active in all public matters and on account of his enterprise and reliability has frequently been elected to local offices, serving as the first postmaster of Bloomer, for four different times receiving the majority of votes as assessor of Newberry Township, and since 1881 he has been superintendent of the turnpikes. His comfortable residence was built in 1884, it being the second house in the hamlet. Mr. Sando has little time to devote to agriculture, but he owns a farm of twenty-five acres adjoining his tile works.

On December 31, 1877, Mr. Sando was married to Miss Lucinda Hebb, a daughter of Jacob Hebb, of Darke County, and they have had three children: Orville, Iva and Maud. Orville died at the age of eighteen months. Iva married Frank R. Greer and they have two children: Zelma and Roswell. Maud was married (first) to Walter E. Heffner, who was accidentally killed in the railroad yards at Bradford, May 31, 1905. He left three children: Margaret, Ruth and Lawson. Her second marriage was to Judson Derr and they have one child, Una. Mr. Sando is a member of the Mennonite Church.

GEORGE OWEN MURPHY, a representative farmer of Brown Township, Miami County, residing on a valuable property consisting of eighty acres of well improved land, situated one and one-half miles northeast of Fletcher, owns a second farm, of fifty-five acres, located north of Fletcher. He was born in Greene County, Ohio, May 5, 1858, and is a son of J. C. and Mercy Murphy. The father of Mr. Murphy was born in New Jersey and came early to Ohio, settling in Greene County, where he married Mercy Sackett. They had two sons and three daughters. Mr. Murphy followed farming all his active life, for many years in Greene County and later in Miami County, near Fletcher. There he died when aged eighty-six years.

George Owen Murphy has been engaged in agricultural pursuits ever since he left school. He assisted his father, being the youngest of the sons, and remained at home until his marriage and then came to his present place, on which he has made all the excellent improvements. He carries on a general farming line, raising grain, potatoes, hay and stock. Mr. Murphy married Miss Sarah Serrilda Berryhill, a daughter of Aaron Berryhill, of Miami County, and they have one daughter, Ferna May, who resides at home. Mr. Murphy is a Democrat in his political views. He is a member of the Odd Fellows, at Fletcher.

WILLIAM M. DE BRA, one of Newberry Township's best known educators, residing on his improved farm of eighteen acres, which is situated on the Covington-Polo turnpike road, about one and one-half miles north of Covington, was born on a farm near Pleasant Hill, Miami County, Ohio, September 30, 1859, and is a son of David and Elizabeth (Burns) De Bra.

The De Bra family is of French extraction. The great-grandfather, Jacob De Bra, was born in Alsace-Lorraine, came to America, located in Maryland, where he died. He had married a thrifty German and when she was left a widow she came to Miami County with her children and entered a large tract of land in the vicinity of Pleasant Hill. Samuel De Bra, the grandfather, was born in Maryland, and after coming to Miami County lived in Newton Township. He was a carpenter by trade and his son David, father of William M. De Bra, learned the same trade. David De Bra married Elizabeth Burns, who was born near Pleasant Hill, Miami County, and was a daughter of William Burns, a native of Wales. William Burns was a sailor in his early life, but later became a farmer in Miami County. David De Bra and his wife had four children: Margaret, who is the wife of Stephen Benning, of Piqua, Ohio; Angeline, who is the wife of James Shoe, of Piqua; Ina, and William M., the last named being the eldest. David De Bra and wife are among the venerable residents of Newberry Township, to which they moved in 1866.

William M. De Bra attended the Newberry Township schools, the Covington High School and the Ohio Normal University, at Ada, attending the latter institution's summer terms. In 1883 Mr. De Bra began to teach school and he has taught continuously in Newberry Township up to the present time, with the exception of the year 1901, when he taught in Staunton Township. He now has charge of District School No. 13, at Polo. In devoting himself to this work for so many years, Mr. De Bra has done a great service to his section, raising the standard of education and inspiring a feeling of emulation among his pupils that has borne rich fruit. Many of the young people who have been under his care during the past quarter of a century are proving, in responsible positions, that the instruction he has imparted has been thoroughly practical. It is said of Mr. De Bra that he takes an individual interest in every pupil and understands each so well that he is thus able to arouse each mind to its fullest capacity. Many teachers are never able to do this.

On July 4, 1887, Mr. De Bra was married to Miss Nellie Printz, a daughter of James K. Polk and Lavina (Babylon) Printz. Mrs. De Bra was born in Darke County, Ohio, but was reared in Miami County. Her parents now reside in Shelby County. Mr. and Mrs. De Bra have three children: Dorothy, Ruth and Paul. The family belong to the Christian Church. Fraternally, he is identified with the Odd Fellows. He has never been active in politics, but has always been ready to perform his whole duty as a public-spirited citizen.

JAMES MOTT, deceased, formerly one of Newberry Township's prominent citizens and highly respected men, was born on a farm in Darke County, Ohio, and died on his farm in Newberry Township, Miami County, in 1895. His parents were Zachariah and Mary Mott.

The late James Mott was left motherless when he was but a babe and he was cared for a short time in the home of Samuel Wise, near Bradford, Miami County, after which he made his home until manhood with his brother Abraham. He learned to work hard in boyhood and was always a busy man, following farming as his main occupation, coming into possession of the fine old Elmore farm of 160 acres. He was a good farmer and took pride in this property and the splendid residence, now occupied by his only daughter and husband, he put up during his active years. He was a stanch Democrat in his political views, but when he was elected to township offices he served entirely without bias and there are those who assert that no more able or honest trustee ever was elected in Newberry Township than was James Mott. He married Anna Elmore, who survived him but two years. She was a daughter of Joseph Elmore and was born on the farm on which she and husband lived and which is now the property of J. F. Etter and wife. Two children only were born to them, the one survivor being Nannie, who is the wife of J. F. Etter.

Mr. Etter was born at Dayton, Montgomery County, Ohio, and came to Miami County when eleven years old, with his parents, James and Susanna Etter. Mr. Etter manages the farm on which he and wife reside, but does not cultivate it, having it rented. Mr. and Mrs. Etter have two children: Mae, who is the wife of Edwin Grove; and James, who is in the employ of the Government as railway clerk running between Indianapolis and Pittsburg. He married Lo Dollinger and has four children—Francis, Lois, Robert and Ruth. Mrs. Etter was reared in the Christian Church, her father being a consistent member and for years a trustee of the Greenville Creek Church.

J. CLYDE HILLIARD, residing on the old Hilliard farm of 170 acres in Spring Creek Township, comes of one of the most prominent and oldest established families in Miami County. He was born January 31, 1870, on his present farm and is a son of James and Adelaide (Gill) Hilliard, and a grandson of Joseph and Sarah (Reid) Hilliard.

John and Elizabeth Hilliard, the great-grandparents of our subject, were one of the first families to locate in Miami County, coming here in 1797 under the direction of Col. Simms. They entered the land on which our subject lives, and it is the oldest tract of land in the county which has been continuously in the name of one family. In about 1816 the house in which J. Clyde Hilliard was born was erected, it being considered quite a mansion at that time, and with the exception of one cabin, which was a trading post, was the only house between here and Dayton. Here Joseph Hilliard engaged in agricultural pursuits and he reared a family of seven children: Nancy, Mary, Susan, Jerusha, John R., Amanda, and James G., father of our subject, all of whom are now deceased.

James G. Hilliard was reared on the home farm, obtained his educational training in the district schools and at McMurdy's Academy, after which he engaged in farming on the home place, where he died July 14, 1906, at the age of eighty-three years. After losing his sight, in 1852, he dealt extensively in horses and cattle, and became one of the best known stockmen in this section of the county. He was united in marriage with Adelaide Gill, who was born near Milford Center, Union County, Ohio, a daughter of David and Eleanor Gill, residents and farmers of Union County. Mrs. Hilliard was one of a family of six children, the others being as follows: William, Maskel, Reuben, Robert, and Jennie. She was seventy-six years of age on May 30, 1909, and makes her home with her son, the subject of this record. James G. Hilliard was identified with the Republican party in politics. For fifty-four years he was a member of the order of Odd Fellows and his religious membership was with the Baptist Church.

J. Clyde Hilliard was reared and has always lived on his present farm. He attended the schools of this district and at Piqua, subsequently going to the West for some time, and upon his return home assumed the management of the home place, where he carries on farming in a general way, but owing to ill health rents out a portion of the land. He was united in marriage with Josephine Lawrence, who is a daughter of Col. Lawrence, who was a prominent attorney of Marysville and a veteran of the Civil War, who entered the army as captain of Company A., 121st Regiment, and returned as its colonel.

In politics, Mr. Hilliard is an adherent of the Republican party. Fraternally, he is a member of the J. O. A. M. and the Elks.

CHARLES A. FESSLER, of Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio, with his wife, is the owner of 100 acres of land located two and one-half miles north of Covington, on the northeast corner of the intersection of the Covington and Stillwater Pikes. He was born on a farm in Shelby County, Ohio, July 26, 1868, and is a son of John Martin and Catherine Elizabeth (Peterseim) Fessler.

John M. Fessler was born in Germany and was about eleven years of age when he accompanied his mother to the United States, his father having died previous to that time. They located on a farm in Shelby County, where the father of the subject of this record has since lived. He married Catherine Elizabeth Peterseim, who was born in Shelby County, but was reared in Newberry Township, Miami County, just north of Bloomer.

Charles A. Fessler was reared on the home farm where his parents still reside, and has always followed agricultural pursuits. After his marriage in 1895, they set up housekeeping on the farm adjoining his present place on the northeast, in Newberry Township. They rented that property until 1906, when he purchased what is known as the old Drake farm, on which he has since lived. There is a large brick house and a good set of farm buildings on the place, and he has made many other important improvements, among other things fencing the entire place. He follows general farming and stock raising. October 6, 1895, Mr. Fessler was united in marriage with Miss Jennie A. Rhoades, a daughter of Uriah V. and Dorothy Ann (Routson) Rhoades, and they have two children, Treva Esther and Zelma Irene. Religiously, they are members of the Lutheran Church at Bloomer.

MARTIN A. PETERSEIM, postmaster at Bloomer, Miami County, is one of the enterprising and representative business men of this section, being proprietor of a general store which supplies the needs of a large territory and with A. C. Rhoades, under the firm name of Peterseim & Rhoades, operates an elevator. Mr. Peterseim was born on a farm in Shelby County, Ohio, one-half mile distant from Bloomer, September 8, 1844, and is a son of John Adam and Elizabeth (Fett) Peterseim. Both parents of Mr. Peterseim were born in Germany. They were married there and immediately afterward came to America and to Shelby County. When their son, Martin A., was six years old they moved on a farm of ninety acres, which adjoins Bloomer on the north, and both died there.

Martin A. Peterseim has lived on the above mentioned farm almost since he was an infant and he also owns a second farm, which is situated one-half mile south of Bloomer and contains twenty-five acres. For twenty-two years he has been a leading factor in business at this point, being interested for that length of time in both store and elevator, and for the same length of time has been postmaster. He has served one term as township trustee, being elected on the Democratic ticket, but his business interests have been so many that he has never sought political favor to any great degree. Mr. Peterseim married Miss Mary Catherine Keiser, a daughter of William Keiser, and they have five children, namely: Ellen, who is the widow of Judson Sando; Edith, who is the wife of A. C. Rhoades; Walter, who is in the employ of his father at Bloomer; and Stella and Florence. Mr. Peterseim is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, in which he has been an official almost the entire period of his mature life.

SAMUEL HART, one of Bradford's most active business men, occupying quarters in the busiest part of the town, on the Darke County side of Main Street, deals extensively in flour, feed, grain, baled hay, straw, and coal. He was born in Wayne County, Indiana, January 17, 1866, and is a son of Isaac and Mary (Mohler) Hart. The late Isaac Hart was a well known farmer in Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, where he settled in 1873. He resided on that farm until the close of his life. His widow still survives.

Samuel Hart was reared on the home farm in Newton Township from the age of seven years and remained there until he came to Bradford in 1904 and embarked in his present business. Through energy and enterprise he has advanced himself to a leading position among the business men of this section of the county, and likewise in the eastern portion of Darke and the southern part of Shelby Counties. Mr. Hart was married to Miss Lizzie Caldwell, who is now deceased, and is survived by two children, Ethel and Charles. Mr. Hart is identified with both the Masons and Odd Fellows and is favorably known in fraternal circles, taking a hearty interest in lodge work. He has never taken a very active part in political life.

JOHN W. BROWN, a well known agriculturist of Brown Township, Miami County, Ohio, is engaged in farming the home place of fifty-five acres and an additional tract of fifty acres, located about one mile west of his home, and he owns both farms. He was born in Shelby County, Ohio, and is a son of Augustus S. and Catherine C. (Wilson) Brown.

Augustus S. Brown was born in Kentucky, in 1814, and when young came to Miami County, Ohio. He lived with an uncle for a time and subsequently moved to Shelby County, where he lived until two years after the birth of the subject of this record. He then returned to Miami County and located upon the farm in Brown Township, where he lived until his death in 1855. He married Catherine C. Wilson, whose father lived at Troy and served some years on the Bench. They had the following children: Letitia, deceased; Elizabeth; William Perry, deceased; Thomas, deceased; Martha, deceased; Lucinda; Lydia; Caroline; Virginia; and John W.

John W. Brown was two years of age when his parents moved from Shelby County to the farm on which he now lives, and with the exception of two years spent on a farm northeast of here, has since lived on this place. He attended the district schools and early in life turned his attention to farming. He bought out the other heirs to the home place and in 1907 purchased his farm of fifty acres, located one mile west. He erected the residence in which he lives, and the good barn which was on the place, he later moved to its present location, and has made many other important improvements. He is a substantial and progressive citizen, and is held in high esteem by his fellow men. Mr. Brown was united in marriage with Mary S. Duer, a daughter of William H. Duer, of Miami County. Religiously, they are members of the Baptist Church at Lena. He is a Democrat in politics, and is deeply interested in the success of the principles of that party.

CHARLES B. MAIER, who is engaged in the carriage, buggy, harness and horse supply business at Covington, is a leading citizen of Newberry Township, of which he is one of the trustees. He was born on a farm in Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio, October 20, 1862, and is a son of Eberhart and Louisa Maier.

The parents of Mr. Maier were both born in Germany but their marriage took place in America. In 1864 they moved from Newberry to Newton Township, where the father died four years later, leaving his widow with a family of little children. This devoted mother gave all her energies to the keeping of her family together and remained on the home farm until each one was grown. This estimable woman, now in her eighty-third year, resides at Springfield, Ohio, where she has many friends.

Charles B. Maier was six years old when his father died. His capable mother reared him carefully, teaching him habits of thrift and encouraging him both at school and in the performance of his farm duties. For a number of years he followed farming, acquiring the home place of 129 acres, all but forty-five acres in Newberry Township, lying in Newton Township. His wife owns a farm of twenty acres adjoining. His farm land is now rented, his business interests at Covington requiring his presence in the city, which has been his home since 1907. On January 5, 1904, Mr. Maier and family went to California and spent a whole year in that State but came back to Ohio better satisfied with their native place than ever. Mr. Maier has been engaged in his present business since October, 1906, having bought out J. G. Wetzel. Mr. Maier married Miss Emma Price, a daughter of Isaac Price, and they have two children: Arthur J. and Walter L.

Mr. Maier has always been an active citizen, taking an interest in both township and city affairs. In the fall of 1907 he was elected on the Democratic ticket, a trustee of Newberry Township, with a majority of 214 votes, although it is normally Republican. He assumed the duties of the office on January 1, 1908, the other members of the board being Harry Fox and John Weheman. Mr. Maier is identified with the order of Odd Fellows.

S. FRANK YATES, proprietor of one of the largest and best general stores in

Miami County, located in the village of Lena, is a substantial and progressive citizen. He was born in Brown Township, Miami County, in 1864, and comes of an old family of the community. He is a son of Samuel and Phoebe (Shanks) Yates, and a grandson of Ebenezer Yates.

Ebenezer Yates came from New Jersey at an early date and located upon a farm in Lost Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, where he passed the remainder of his days. Samuel Yates was born in Miami County and here passed a life of great usefulness. He was a prosperous farmer and was the owner of two good properties in Brown Township. He married Phoebe Shanks and they became parents of the following children: Alice J., wife of George W. Brecount; Florence, who died at the age of seventeen years; Mary Ann, wife of Joseph Wolcott; S. Frank, whose name heads this record; Clara B., who was first married to James Buckles, and after his demise to I. M. Wolcott; and Earl A., who married Mattie Denman, a daughter of Dr. Denman, of Lena.

S. Frank Yates was reared in Brown Township and received a good common school education. He engaged in farming on the home place and in 1893 embarked in the poultry business, in which he met with success, and was at that time a member of the firm of White & Yates and was engaged in the general mercantile business at Lena for many years. Upon selling out that business, Mr. Yates moved to Troy, where for fifteen months he engaged in clerking. At the end of that time, in 1908, he again purchased the store at Lena, where he now continues. He carries a comprehensive line of general merchandise and groceries, and enjoys the liberal patronage of the community. In 1901, he erected one of the finest store buildings in Miami County, aside from those to be found in the two principal cities. He has taken an active interest in the affairs of the place, and for a period of sixteen years has served efficiently as a member of the Board of Education.

Mr. Yates was united in marriage with Miss Wilda M. White, a daughter of James White of Champaign County, Ohio, and they have two children: Ethel M. and Florence A. Religiously, they are members of the Baptist Church. Politically, he is inclined to be independent, casting his ballot always for the man best fitted for the office. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Masons, and the Knights of the Golden Eagle.

OSCAR FRANKLIN FURROW, whose fine farm containing 170 acres, is situated in the northeastern part of Lost Creek Township, was born on the old McNeal farm in Elizabeth Township, Miami County, Ohio, August 6, 1854, and is a son of Captain John Kennedy and Margaret (Nickles) Furrow. The Furrow family is of Scotch-Irish extraction and was founded in Ohio by Tyson Furrow, the grandfather, who settled in the deep woods which in his day covered the country near what is now Miami City. His children bore the following names: Margaret, Elizabeth, Martha, Mary, Samuel, Elijah and John Kennedy.

John Kennedy Furrow was the eldest of the above family and he was born in the old log cabin standing on the Furrow place near Miami City, in August, 1831. His young strength was given in helping his father clear off the farm and he remained

OSCAR F. FURROW

MRS. MARY S. FURROW

after the father's death and his own marriage, to care for his widowed mother and sisters. When the Civil War broke out, John K. Furrow was one of the earnest, thoughtful men who, from a sense of duty, put aside every personal consideration, and in 1861 hastened to enroll for the defense of the Union. He enlisted in Company A, Forty-fourth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, contracting for three years and after serving through that period, reënlisted, with the rank of captain, to which he had been promoted, in the Eighth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, and in this he served until almost the close of the war, when he was relieved on account of disability, having twice suffered the unspeakable hardships of incarceration in Libby Prison. He is one of the prominent members of the Grand Army Post at St. Paris. For twenty years after the close of his military service, he conducted a grocery business in that village and then retired to Conover, where both he and wife live, in great comfort. He is a Knight Templar Mason and a leading Republican in his section. Captain Furrow was married in 1853, to Miss Margaret Nickles and they have had the following children: Oscar Franklin; Laura, who is the wife of C. K. Heisey; Effie, who is the wife of Dr. C. F. Johnson; Edgar O., who is a physician at Troy; Albert D.; John; and Jonathan, who died young.

Oscar Franklin Furrow, or Frank, as he is familiarly called by his many friends, spent his boyhood in Elizabeth Township, being seven years old when his father went into the army. After his long and honorable service terminated, Captain Furrow moved his family to St. Paris, and there Frank Furrow became a bright student and subsequently graduated from the High School. After that he became a clerk in his father's grocery store and remained until he reached his majority and then started out for himself. He served an apprenticeship of five years to the watchmaking trade and followed it for twenty years, during this period traveling over a large part of the South and Indiana. When he returned he purchased a jewelry store at St. Paris and conducted it for ten years, when failing health made it necessary for him to enter into an occupation which would keep him more or less in the open air. This life he found in farming, in the far West, and he spent nine years in Washington and six years in Oregon before coming back to Ohio. In December, 1900, he bought his present farm in Lost Creek Township, from Michael Wilgus. The place was in fair condition, the buildings all standing, but he has done considerable improving, nevertheless, and has a very fine place. He devotes his land to the growing of corn, wheat, oats and hay and raises enough stock for his own use.

On November 8, 1879, Mr. Furrow was married (first) to Miss Louisa M. Hill, a daughter of George Hill. She died May 7, 1888, leaving three children: Eva M., who is the wife of Ora Super and has one child, Mary E.; Rex F.; and John K., deceased. Mr. Furrow was married (second) March 10, 1889, to Miss Mary E. Sills, a daughter of Samuel Sills of Champaign County, Ohio. For twenty-eight years Mr. Furrow has been identified with the Masonic fraternity and belongs to the Commandery at Troy. He is a stanch Republican but has never accepted any office other than that of township trustee.

AUGUST PETERS, owner of a valuable farm of fifty-three and one-half acres located about two miles west of Piqua on what is known as the Jimtown Pike, is a well-known and progressive citizen of Washington Township, Miami County, Ohio. He was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, July 20, 1857, and is a son of John Henry and Catherine (Snyder) Peters.

The parents of August Peters were born in Germany, but were married at Cincinnati in 1849. John Henry Peters learned the trade of a nailsmith in his native land and for a time followed it in Cincinnati; about the year 1860 he moved to Shelby County, Ohio, and followed farming many years. Upon the death of his wife, November 20, 1904, he came to Miami County and made his home with the subject of this sketch until his death on February 18, 1906. Both lie buried at Newport, Shelby County, Ohio.

August Peters was about three years of age when his parents moved to Shelby County, Ohio, and there he was reared and educated. He was there married and continued to reside until 1891, when they moved to Miami County. He located on the Freeman Skinner farm at Eldean and lived there ten years, at the end of which time he purchased a farm of eighty-one acres in Shelby County, Ohio, but decided not to move there, instead locating on the old Dr. Coleman farm in Staunton Township, where they lived four years. In the spring of 1905 they sold the Shelby County farm and purchased what is known as the old Hattie Grey farm in Washington Township, where they now live. Mr. Peters has always followed general farming and has achieved a high degree of success. All that he has was earned by his own efforts, with the assistance of his wife, and he can look with pride upon the advancement he has made.

September 8, 1885, Mr. Peters was married in Turtle Creek Township, Shelby County, Ohio, to Miss Sarah J. Ike, who was born and reared in that township. She is a daughter of John and Esther (Kruse) Ike, both now deceased. Her father died in Shelby County, July 22, 1893, and her mother on March 28, 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Peters became parents of four children, as follows: Leota May, who was graduated from Piqua High School in June, 1908, and is now a teacher at the Children's Home in Miami County; Harry Clifford; William Warren and Mary Esther. Religiously the family belongs to the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church at Piqua.

GEORGE W. HOOPES, who has attained a high degree of success in farming and dairying, resides on a farm of 157 acres which he owns, located about one mile north of Covington, in Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio. He also owns a farm of seventy-eight acres in the same township, located north of Polo, on the Miami and Shelby County line, which is farmed by his son, Harley.

Mr. Hoopes was born in Chester County, Penn., August 14, 1861, and was about twelve years old when his parents moved to Shelby County, Ohio. About one year later, in 1874, he accompanied them to Miami County, where they purchased a farm of forty acres. The father, Elwood Hoopes, died on that place in July, 1907, and his widow, who in maiden life was Mary Ann Carpenter, still lives at Clayton with a daughter, Cordelia Hoopes.

George W. Hoopes was reared on the

farm and received a common school education. He continued to live at Clayton for one year after his marriage, then moved to Shelby County, where he rented a farm for three years. At the end of that time he moved to the farm adjoining his present one on the east, and farmed it as a renter for six years. He then purchased the tract of seventy-eight acres located north of Polo, which he farmed and resided upon for twelve years. At the end of that time, or on March 4, 1907, he rented his present home place of A. F. Mikesell, and in the fall of 1908 purchased it. He is engaged in general farming and dairying, and runs a milk wagon. Mrs. Hoopes for a period of twenty-two years has attended the Piqua Market, where she has a stall. They have one of the best improved farms in the township and reside in a large yellow brick house which sets about 100 yards back from the road. Between the house and the road is a well-kept lawn, beautifully shaded by trees. A round barn, large in size and of good arrangement, and other substantial buildings, are in keeping with the general fine appearance of the farm.

Mr. Hoopes was united in marriage with Miss Annoh Hay, who was born and reared in Newberry township, and is a daughter of Daniel and Sarah Jane Hay, both of whom are deceased. Three children were born to them, namely: Harley, who married Delmar Fulker and lives on the farm north of Polo; Roy, who lives with his parents; and Mearl, who is also at home. Harley Hoopes and his wife are parents of two children, Ilene and Imo.

WILLIAM T. SHANKS, residing on a farm one and a half miles east of Fletcher, in Brown Township, comes of an old and respected family of Miami County. He was born in the southern part of Brown Township, September 16, 1849, and is a son of Daniel and Jane (Yates) Shanks.

Peter Shanks, grandfather of William T., was the first of the family to come to Miami County; he came from Pennsylvania and entered the tract in the southern part of Brown Township which has since been known as the old Shanks homestead. He also entered the eighty acres to the west of it, but was obliged to give it up. He continued to live on that farm until his death at the advanced age of ninety-three years. His trade was that of a cooper. His wife died on that place at an early age.

Daniel Shanks, father of the subject of this record, was born on the home place in Brown Township, and continued to reside there throughout life, dying at the age of sixty-two years. His first marriage was with Jane Yates, who died at the age of forty-five years. They were parents of the following children: Lear, who died at the age of five years; William T.; Seymour, who lives in South Dakota; Josephine, who lives on the home place and is the wife of George Pence; Sarah Jane, deceased wife of H. Lane; and one who did not survive birth. Mr. Shanks formed a second marital union with Miss Charlotte Gaskell, by whom he had the following issue: Clara, Frank, Effie, Maude, Blanche, George, and Lilly.

William T. Shanks was educated in the common schools of Brown Township and worked on the home farm until his marriage in 1872. He then rented various places in the township until 1891, when he purchased his present farm of fifty-five and one-half acres. In 1901, he erected a modern residence, which is complete in all its appointments and is finished in five kinds of natural wood. It is one of the best houses in this section. He carries on general farming and tobacco raising, and is rated among the well-to-do and progressive citizens of the township.

November 14, 1872, Mr. Shanks was married to Miss Elizabeth Lane, a daughter of Isaac Lane of Brown Township, and they have one son, Lawrence Earl, who attended business college at Piqua and is at present bookkeeper for the Stewart & Brown Company of that city. Politically, Mr. Shanks is a Democrat and has served six years as township treasurer and ten years as member of the School Board. He is a member of the Order of Odd Fellows, its auxiliary lodge, the Rebeccas, the Encampment, I. O. O. F.; and the Knights of Pythias. Religiously, he is a member of the Baptist Church at Fletcher.

GEORGE C. RHOADES comes of an old and respected family of Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio, and lives on the farm on which he was born, located about six miles northwest of Covington, on the Piqua and Versailles pike. He was born May 15, 1867, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Schneck) Rhoades.

John Rhoades was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, and lived there until after his first marriage; he then came to Newberry Township, Miami County, and entered 180 acres of land, of which the farm of George C. Rhoades was a part. He was twice married, the mother of the subject of this sketch being his second wife. As a result of these unions, he became the father of fourteen children, of whom but five are now living. He died on the home farm in November, 1889, and was survived by his widow, whose death occurred September 22, 1906.

George C. Rhoades was reared on the farm and attended the district schools. He has always followed farming and is the owner of ninety acres of the old home place, which formerly consisted of about 170 acres, the remainder being owned by his brother, Charles D. Rhoades. In 1892 he built a large and commodious frame house, in which he now lives, and in 1893, completed the big barn. The other buildings and most of the improvements have been made by him, and his place is one of the best kept in this section of the county.

Mr. Rhoades was united in marriage with Laura P. Grunert, who was born in Fletcher, Miami County, Ohio, but was reared in Shelby County, and is a daughter of Frederick Grunert. They have two children: Emory A., who married Glenna Routson; and O. Fern, who teaches school in District No. 15, Newberry Township. Religiously, they are members of the Lutheran Church, of which he is a trustee.

CAPT. SAMUEL D. PALMER, formerly mayor of Covington, Ohio, and since 1904 in the Government service in connection with the Rural Free Delivery system here, is a veteran of the Civil War and since boyhood has been identified with military affairs. He was born April 19, 1848, in Franklin County, Penna., a son of Michael and Elizabeth (Rowe) Palmer. The parents of Capt. Palmer were born, reared and married in Maryland. They later settled on a farm in Franklin County, Penna., and their subsequent life passed there.

Samuel D. Palmer attended the public schools in Franklin County until he was thirteen years of age, when he joined two brothers, Daniel and George, at Gettysburg, Darke County, Ohio. From there, February 18, 1864, he entered the Federal Army, although he was only fourteen years of age, enlisting in Company K, Thirty-fourth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in which he served until the close of the war, being mustered out July 26, 1865. On February 14, 1865, his regiment was consolidated with the Thirty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, the two regiments being consolidated while he was a prisoner. Although a boy in years, the young soldier displayed the courage of a man, participating in thirty-four battles and skirmishes and often for weeks being in hourly danger of death. Only on one occasion was he injured and that not very seriously, being felled by an exploding shell, but on January 11, 1865, he was captured by the Confederates, at Beverly, Virginia, and he was confined in the terrible Libby Prison until April, 1865, rejoining his regiment as soon as exchanged. His record is one of which he is justly proud. After he returned to Gettysburg, his interest in military matters continued and for twenty-seven years he was an officer in the Ohio National Guards, now being on the retired list, with the rank of captain. For five years he served as second lieutenant of Company G, Third Regiment, for one year as lieutenant, for eleven years as captain and for ten years was captain of Company A.

From 1865 until 1880, Captain Palmer resided at Gettysburg or on a farm of 120 acres belonging to Andrew Weaver, in Adams Township, Darke County. His military duties frequently required his presence at other points and much of his attention. The farm of twenty acres in Concord Township that he owns now he never lived on. He is a member of Langston Post, G. A. R., of which he has been adjutant for fourteen years and for several years was commander, and he was also on the staff of General Mumford, with the rank of colonel, when that officer was at the head of the Ohio organization. In 1880 he came to Covington and soon became a man to whom the citizens looked for advice and public help, electing him to the city council for two years and in 1894 making him mayor. He served in that responsible office for three full terms, up to 1900, and during that time Covington made many leaps forward, adding to her public utilities and her commercial importance.

Capt. Palmer was married to Miss Belle Hill and they have two children: Maud, who is the wife of Samuel N. Arnie; and Loretta Pearl, who married Dr. W. B. Carey. Dr. Carey and wife have one son, Palmer Benord Carey, and they reside at Brooklyn, New York. Capt. Palmer and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he has been a steward since 1880. In politics he is a Republican. He is identified fraternally with the Masons and Knights of Pythias.

JOHN DUER, the owner of farming land in Shelby County, Ohio, and 145 acres of well improved land in Brown Township, Miami County, on which he resides, is a substantial and representative man of this section. He was born December 1, 1845, in Clark County, Ohio, and is a son of Joshua A. and Sarah (Fryback) Duer.

John Duer can claim Revolutionary ancestry, his great-grandfather, William Anderson, serving under General Washington, with the rank of colonel. The paternal grandfather, William Duer, was born in Pennsylvania and died there, but his widow accompanied her son to Ohio and died in Fletcher, Miami County, when aged eighty-six years.

Joshua A. Duer was born in Bucks County, Penna., and came to Warren County, Ohio, in 1830, one year later moving to Fletcher, Miami County, later to South Charleston, Ohio, after which he returned to Fletcher, and in 1837 bought the farm now owned by his son, John Duer. He was a blacksmith and followed this trade for some twenty-five years, and he was also a farmer and the remainder of his life was passed either on the farm or in Fletcher. He died on the farm at the age of eighty years and three months. He married Sarah Fryback, who lived to be eighty-four years old. They had ten children born to them, as follows: Samuel, who died at the age of thirteen years; George W., deceased; William A., who lives in Indiana; Susannah and Charlotte, both deceased; John; E. F., who lives in Cleveland; James T., who lives in Miami County; Frank, and an infant, the former of whom died when aged nineteen years and the latter at birth.

John Duer was four weeks old when his parents moved from Clark County to Fletcher, Miami County, and he was educated in the Brown Township schools and at New Hope, up to the age of seventeen years, and then attended the Piqua High School for three months during the winters of 1863-4 and 1865. During the winters of 1865-6 and 1867 he taught school, but after that he devoted about all of his attention to agricultural pursuits, beginning on the old home farm, from which he moved later just across the road, and two and one-half years afterward, to his farm in Shelby County, on which he resided for thirty-three years. On December 13, 1906, he came back to the homestead. He had improved his Shelby County property with excellent buildings and in 1906 erected a comfortable residence on his Brown Township place and is making preparations to do more building. A part of Mr. Duer's farm possesses great historic interest. It was formerly owned by Colonel Munsel and county annals tell of the notable gathering of men, around the old spring, on this farm, to discuss the acquisition of the Northwest Territory, the final decision of which brought about such momentous results. The old spring still bubbles up its clear, sweet cold water, never, in all these years, having failed.

On June 18, 1868, Mr. Duer was married to Miss Mary E. Worthington, a daughter of George M. Worthington, and they have two children: Walter and Clyde. The former resides at Troy, married Helen Cook, of Piqua, and they have two children: Elsie and John C. Clyde resides on his father's farm of eighty acres, in Shelby County. He married Sarah Wilgus, daughter of E. J. Wilgus, and they have one daughter, Dorothy. Mr. and Mrs. Duer are members of the Christian Church, of which he has been clerk for twenty-three years. Politically he is a Prohibitionist, and while living in Greene Township, Shelby County, served six years as clerk and one year as trustee.

W. W. BOSSERMAN, one of the leading business men of Bradford, Ohio, proprietor of a general store, is one of the town's best known citizens, having been a resident since he was sixteen years of age. Mr. Bosserman was born on a farm in Newberry Township, near Clayton, Miami County, Ohio, December 2, 1862, and is a son of Solomon and Elizabeth (Fink) Bosserman, the former of whom died in 1868.

W. W. Bosserman grew to the age of sixteen years on the home farm and attended the country schools. He then came to Bradford and for twenty years was in the employ of his uncle, Philip Fink, who conducted a general store. In this connection Mr. Bosserman had the very training essential to him in starting and maintaining a similar business of his own, which he embarked in in 1903. He has one of the largest general stores in Bradford and carries a carefully selected stock of groceries, dry goods, shoes, etc., and has a trade that makes him need the services of three clerks. Mr. Bosserman is numbered with the most enterprising business men of the place.

Mr. Bosserman married Miss Almeda Zerbe, a daughter of Abraham Zerbe, and they have three children, Elsie, Mildred and Wilbur. Mr. Bosserman is not very active in politics, but is ever ready to support movements for good government and to advance efforts to further the prosperity of his town. He is identified with the Masons and the Knights of Pythias.

HARRY M. WHITMORE, owner of seventy and one-half acres of the old Whitmore farm situated just north of Fletcher, in Brown Township, Miami County, was born June 5, 1861, in Lost Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of David J. and a grandson of Henry Whitmore.

Henry Whitmore was one of the pioneer settlers in Miami County and owned 187 acres of land in the vicinity of Casstown, all of which he cleared with the exception of four acres. He was one of the sturdy men of early times and the founder of a family which has ever since been one of prominence in this section.

David J. Whitmore was born on his father's farm near Casstown and attended the district schools and was given advantages at Wittenberg. He returned to the homestead and cultivated it until he was about sixty years of age, when he moved from there to a farm of less dimensions, but failing health caused his retirement to Casstown and there he died of paralysis, when sixty-eight years of age. He married (first) Mary Odaffer, of Miami County, and they had two children, Harry M. and John, the mother dying when her sons were small. Mr. Whitmore was married (second) to Cassie Lewis, who died May 24, 1909, and three children were born to this union: Mary, Edmond and Estella, all of whom survive.

Harry M. Whitmore obtained his education in the schools of Lost Creek Township, after which he engaged in farming on the home place until 1900, when he purchased his present property. He carries on a general agricultural line, making no specialty of any one product but making his land produce to its fullest capacity in every part. He grows grain, hay and stock and has productive orchards.

Mr. Whitmore married Miss Jennie Smith, a daughter of Martin and Nancy J. Smith, the former of whom died November 11, 1906. The mother of Mrs. Whitmore makes her home with Mr. Whitmore. The Smith family has been of Miami County since 1853. Mr. and Mrs. Whitmore have one son, David Martin, who is a bright pupil in the public school. Mr. Whitmore and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Fletcher. He is not identified politically with either of the great parties, but he is a good citizen, one who lives up to his responsibilities, but does his own thinking and votes as his judgment suggests.

WILLIAM E. SHELLABARGER, a venerable citizen of Covington, Miami County, Ohio, who is now living in retirement, was engaged in agricultural pursuits throughout his active career. He was born in Juniata County, Pennsylvania, November 30, 1827, and is a son of David and Elizabeth (Randels) Shellabarger.

David Shellabarger, father of the subject of this record, was a farmer in Juniata County and resided there until his death. His widow later moved to Miami County, Ohio, and there formed a second marital union with a man bearing the same name as her first husband, David Shellabarger. She continued to reside there until her death.

William E. Shellabarger preceded his mother to Miami County by several years, coming west in 1851. His first year here he worked in Covington at his trade as a millwright, then for three years worked at sawmilling. He continued this until his marriage, when he became a farmer. Two years later he purchased a farm of seventy-nine acres in Newton Township, which he improved and lived upon for a period of thirty years. He was a man of great energy and keen business judgment, and he added to his property until he was possessed of 172 acres. In the fall of 1886, he moved with his wife to Covington, and there has a fine brick residence and three lots on South High Street. He retained his farm in Newton Township until April, 1909, when he sold out to good advantage.

February 9, 1854, Mr. Shellabarger was united in marriage with Miss Susan Mohler, who was born in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, July 21, 1834, and is a daughter of Rudolph and Elizabeth (Miller) Mohler. She was about eight years of age when she accompanied her parents, on May 2, 1842, to Miami County, Ohio, settling on a farm at Sugar Grove which her father had previously bought. They moved in wagons, the trip taking nearly three weeks. They had three vehicles, a wagon pulled by four horses, a one-horse wagon and a carriage. Both her parents died on the farm in this county and were buried at Sugar Grove. The subject of this record and his wife became parents of the following children: Mary, wife of George Saylor; Reuben, who died at the age of five years; Elias, who died at three years; Grace, who died when one month old; Rudolph, who died at the age of forty-three years; Sarah, wife of Granvill Minnich, who has charge of the Old Folks Home at Greenville, Ohio; Roland Ellis, who lives on a farm in Newton Township; Levi, a bookkeeper who was for eight years in the postoffice at Manila, P. I., but is now a resident of Washington, D. C.; and Anna, who is the wife of John Goodenbarger, of Akron, Ohio. Reuben and Elias were stricken with diphtheria and died within one day of each other. Rudolph Shellabarger died in 1905 of lockjaw, resulting from a fractured limb. Mr. Shellabarger has long been an active member of the Church of the Brethren, of which he is a deacon. He was for many years and until recently a member of the board of trustees of that church.

B. F. LOXLEY, Sr., one of Newberry Township's most substantial citizens, who resides in a fine residence which he erected on a well improved lot of two and one-fourth acres, just north of Bradford, still retains possession of one farm of 240 acres and has probably given away more land to his children than three-fourths of his fellow citizens ever owned. Mr. Loxley was born on Wolf Creek, near Dayton, in Montgomery County, Ohio, April 18, 1834, and is a son of Samuel and Magdalena (Keener) Loxley.

When Mr. Loxley was six weeks old his parents moved to Preble County, where they died and where he lived until maturity, in 1859 marrying, and continuing to engage in farming in Preble County until 1867. In that year he moved to Miami County and bought 120 acres on the Klinger and Searer turnpike road, and to this land kept adding parcel after parcel until it aggregated 700 acres, making him one of the largest landowners in the county. He also bought land in Darke County, Ohio, and in Kansas and still retains an interest in a large plantation in New Mexico. Mr. Loxley has been exceedingly kind to his children, setting them up in life and not only advising them but giving practical help whenever needed. In addition to the farms that he has distributed, he has given no less than $12,000 in money.

On December 8, 1859, Mr. Loxley was married (first) to Miss Phebe Ann Kaylor, who died after they moved to Miami County. They had seven children, as follows: Mrs. Ida Martin; Charles E., who died from an accidental shooting; Mrs. Ella Katherman; Mrs. Lucinda Rhoades; Mrs. Amanda Apple; Mrs. Ermina Bosserman; and Benjamin F. Mr. Loxley was married (second) to Miss Sallie Miller, who was born at Bradford, Ohio, and when three months old was taken to Newberry Township, one mile north of Bradford, and was reared on the old homestead farm of her maternal grandfather, Jacob Wise, who had entered that land from the Government. Her parents were Michael and Molly (Wise) Miller. Her father was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, a son of Jacob Miller. He died on the old Wise farm in 1884 and was survived by his widow until 1890. They were fervent members of the German Baptist Church, most worthy people in every way. To the second marriage of Mr. Loxley, nine children were born, one of whom died in infancy, the others being as follows: Samuel M., Mrs. Nora Kepner, Jesse Albert, Jacob Edward, Isaiah R., Jennie M., Jonas M., and Jeremiah M. The second born, Aaron, died a babe. Mr. Loxley and wife are leading members of the Church of the Brethren.

WILLIAM B. MOON, a progressive and public-spirited citizen of Brown Township, Miami County, Ohio, is the owner of a fine farm of 125 acres, located about ten miles northeast of Piqua. He was born in Green Township, Shelby County, Ohio, April 14, 1862, and is a son of James and Harriet (Dorsey) Moon.

James Moon was born in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and was four years of age when his parents moved to Ohio. His father, Mahlon Moon, was a Quaker, as was his wife, who in maiden life was Sarah Wharton. He moved west to Greene

County, Ohio, in 1829, and shortly afterward moved to Shelby County, where he passed away. James Moon passed nearly all his life in Shelby County, Ohio, where he owned a farm of eighty acres; his death occurred at the age of seventy-five years. He married Harriet Dorsey, who came of a Miami County family, and they became parents of the following children: Sarah E., wife of C. A. Mahan of Miami County; Mary, wife of W. H. Anderson of Shelby County; Hannah A., wife of J. W. Applegate of Shelby County; William B., subject of this sketch; Mattie J., deceased wife of Martin Bennett; Clara B., wife of E. M. Baker of Shelby County; and Lodema C., wife of F. I. Moore of Brown Township.

William B. Moon was reared in his native county and there attended the public schools. He lived in Shelby County until his marriage in 1883, then moved to his present farm in Brown Township, Miami County. He has followed general farming in a most successful manner. In 1906, he erected one of the best homes in the township, a modern structure with splendid arrangement and equipment. His barn was built in 1890, but was later moved to its present location. Mr. Moon has been a member of the board of education almost continuously since his arrival in the township, has served twelve years as township trustee and was assessor two terms. He is a Democrat in politics. Mr. Moon was united in marriage with Miss Luella Mathers and they are parents of three children: J. Oscar, of Miami County, who married Jennie Wiley and has two sons, Harrold W. and Louis R.; A. Foster, who lives at home; and Elsie H. Religiously, they are members of the Christian Church, of which he has been a deacon for a period of eighteen years.

HON. RICHARD M. ALBERY, formerly mayor of Covington, Ohio, and proprietor of the Albery Sawmill Company, has his plant located about one mile south of Covington, on the Dayton turnpike, and is one of Miami County's most enterprising and substantial citizens. He owns the Falls Electric Light Plant and the Covington Electric Light plant, and the forty-four acres of valuable land in Newberry Township, on which he resides. He was born on a farm in Jefferson Township, Franklin County, Ohio, ten miles east of the city of Columbus, on August 26, 1840. His parents were John M. and Sarah (Baldwin) Albery, who were farming people in Franklin County.

Richard M. Albery was reared on the home farm and in early manhood learned the carpenter trade. He also worked in a sawmill and when he went to California, in 1863, it was with the intention of running a sawmill there. This industry he carried on in the far West for two years and has been identified with the sawmill business for forty years. In 1872 he came to Covington and in November of that year started the business which has developed into the Albery Sawmill Company, a very important lumbering enterprise of this section, which has been located at the same point for thirty-seven years. His other interests have been equally well conducted.

Mr. Albery married Miss Hannah Isabelle Fowler, a daughter of Ezekiel Fowler. She was reared near Union City, Indiana. They have had six children: Martin S., Morris W., Richard F., Esther G., Mabel Ruth and Mamie.

He has one surviving child, Richard. R. M. Albery has a handsome brick residence on his place, which he erected in 1878. The name of Albery is well known all through this section, both father and son having been prominently identified with both business and political affairs, and they have done much to add to the good name and prosperity of Covington and vicinity.

WILLIAM JONES is a prominent farmer and dairyman of Spring Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, and conducts a milk route in the city of Piqua. He resides on a farm of 126 acres, owned by his father, which is considered one of the best improved farms in the township.

Mr. Jones was born in Washington Township, Miami County, Ohio, February 12, 1871, and is a son of John and Louisa (Wagner) Jones, and grandson of Josiah and Catherine (Olaman) Jones. His great-grandfather came to this country from Wales and settled in Delaware, where Josiah Jones was born. John Jones was born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, and after his marriage came to Miami County, Ohio, where he is well known and is an extensive property owner. He lives in Washington Township.

William Jones was reared in Washington Township and received his educational training in the public schools. He worked on the home place some fifteen years, and after his marriage moved to his present farm in Spring Creek Township. This property consisting of 206 acres was purchased by his father for $18,564 in cash, and soon after he erected the fine home on it at a cost of $2,500. William Jones follows general farming and dairying, keeping an average of twenty head of milch cows, and is meeting with much success in his business. The subject of this sketch was united in marriage with Miss Maud Mellinger, a daughter of William Mellinger of Shelby County, and they are parents of the following children: Guy B., who assists his father on the farm; Hazel M., who is attending High School in Piqua; Margaret M.; Forrest F.; and Ralph W. Politically, he is a Republican. In religious attachment, he and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

JOHN MATHEWS, residing on a farm of fifty-five acres located one and a half miles east of Fletcher, was born in Brown Township, Miami County, Ohio, June 3, 1854. He is a son of William and Frances S. (Yates) Mathews, both natives of Miami County.

William Mathews was a lifelong resident of Miami County. After a public school course, he prepared himself for the ministry and throughout nearly his entire active career filled the pulpit in the Baptist Church at Lena. He has a farm of sixty acres south of Lena, where he was living at his death, which occurred at the early age of thirty-four years. He married Frances S. Yates of Miami County, and the following children were born to them: John; Nezer Y., a Baptist minister at St. Paris, Ohio; William C., who was adopted by an uncle named Moore and lives in Shelby County; and Ora Alice, who died at the age of twenty-one years.

John Mathews attended the public schools of Brown Township and has always followed farming. After his marriage he rented and farmed until 1894, when he purchased the old Duncan farm, on which his wife was born and reared. In 1899, he traded that property to George W. Brecount for the one he now owns; he has made many improvements on the place and carries on general farming in a successful manner.

Mr. Mathews was united in marriage with Rebecca Jane Duncan, a daughter of Thomas P. Duncan, who was at one time superintendent of the infirmary of Miami County. The latter died in March, 1893. Two children have blessed this union: Maude and William Thomas. Maude Mathews was married in September, 1902, to C. Earl McMillen, a Baptist minister, who was born in Miami County but was reared at Jackson Center. They formerly resided at Rochester, New York, but now live at Cincinnati, Ohio. William Thomas Mathews, who lives south of Conover, was married to Grace M. Howell on January 28, 1909. He is a Democrat in politics, and is a member of the Baptist Church at Fletcher.

John Mathews is a Democrat in his political affiliations, and has served eight years as a member of the School Board. He has been a member of the Baptist Church at Fletcher for thirty-five years, for many years a deacon, and he is a member of the board of education in Brown Township. Fraternally, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He also is a member of the Anti-Horse Thief Association.

E. B. DAVIS, M. D., one of the leading professional men and representative citizens of Troy, was born in 1858, in Clark County, Ohio, and obtained his literary training in the public schools near his home and in the Normal School at Tremont City. While doing his preliminary medical reading, Dr. Davis engaged in teaching school and for two years taught through the country and at the Normal School. He then entered the Columbus Medical College, where he was graduated in 1886 and later also received a diploma from Starling Medical College. He located for practice at North Hampton, Clark County, and remained there for fourteen years. After taking a thorough post-graduate course in New York, Dr. Davis then moved to Covington and subsequently to Troy and here he has been in active practice for some six years. His standing in the profession is evidenced by his being a valued member of the Miami County and the Ohio State Medical Societies.

In 1888 Dr. Davis was married to Miss Anna Martha Arnett, of Dialton, Clark County, Ohio, who died in October, 1907, leaving three children, Florence Ethel, Elwood and Lillian Gertrude. With his children, Dr. Davis is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and belongs to the official board, at Troy, while at North Hampton he was an active worker in the Sunday-school and in general church work. He is identified with a number of fraternal organizations, belonging to the Odd Fellows, Knights of the Golden Eagle, Knights of the Modern Brotherhood of America and the Junior Order of American Mechanics.

OLIVER H. SNOWBERGER, who successfully carries on general farming in Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio, resides on the old Snowberger homestead, a valuable tract of 160 acres, which is situated on the Klinger turnpike road, one and

MRS. ANNA A. DAVIS

E. B. DAVIS, M. D.

one-half miles north of Covington. He was born on this farm, October 7, 1873, and is a son of David R. and Lydia E. (Cassel) Snowberger. The first member of the Snowberger family to come from Pennsylvania to Ohio, was Andrew Snowberger, grandfather of Oliver H. He came to Shelby and Darke Counties and after living in both, decided to return to Pennsylvania, where he subsequently died.

David R. Snowberger was born in Pennsylvania and when twenty-four years of age, in 1866, he came to Darke County, where he lived for one year and then secured a farm in Miami County, situated four miles north of his present one. He married Lydia E. Cassel, who was born at Greenville Falls, where her father, Michael Cassel, then lived. Subsequently he moved to Newberry Township, Miami County, settling on the present farm of Oliver H. Snowberger, which contained 160 acres. David R. Snowberger and wife continued to reside on this farm during their active lives, retiring then to Covington, where Mrs. Snowberger still lives. David R. Snowberger died at Covington, April 13, 1907. They had four children: Oliver H.; Mary C., who is the wife of Charles Minnick, resides on a half of the homestead farm; and Andrew and Elmer, both of whom died in infancy.

Oliver H. Snowberger has spent the larger part of his life on his present farm, in fact all of it with the exception of three years when he lived in North Dakota. He obtained a district school education. For six years following his marriage he continued on the old farm, but in 1902 moved to North Dakota. Circumstances caused him to return to the old place, in Newberry Township. This farm is well improved with excellent buildings, a set on each eighty acres, these houses and barns having been built by David R. Snowberger.

On February 27, 1896, Mr. Snowberger was married to Miss Viola Pearl Deeter, a daughter of Aaron H. and Sarah Angeline (Myers) Deeter. Her father still survives and resides in Newton Township, but her mother died when she was six years old. Mrs. Snowberger was born in Newton Township, on a farm three miles southeast of Covington. Mr. and Mrs. Snowberger have two children: Glenn H. and Joyce D. The family belongs to the Church of the Brethren.

JOHN M. KNOUFF, who has been a valued member of the Washington Township School Board since 1903, resides on his valuable farm of eighty acres, which is situated in section 34, on the county line road, five miles northwest of the Council House, in Piqua. He was born on a farm in Harrison County, Ohio, November 21, 1853, and is a son of George and Lettie Ann (McKelveen) Knouff.

George Knouff was a native of Pennsylvania and was a son of John Knouff, who brought his family to Harrison County, Ohio, where George Knouff was reared to manhood. He married Lettie Ann McKelveen, a daughter of Thomas McKelveen, of Scotch-Irish extraction. In 1857, they moved to a farm in Newberry Township, Maimi County, south of Covington, and a few years later to a farm south of Pleasant Hill, on which they lived for two years, and then bought eighty acres in Washington Township, on which farm both George Knouff and wife died. They had five children, all of whom, except the youngest, were born in Harrison County, his birth taking place after the family settled in Newberry Township, Miami County. The children were: Jennie, who is the widow of Thomas L. Drake; Susan, who is the wife of George Mowry, residing in Tennessee; Mary, who is the wife of Matthew Hearst, living in Staunton Township, Miami County; John M.; and Joseph C., who is a prominent farmer in Washington Township.

John M. Knouff was four years old when his parents settled in Newberry Township and his whole life has been passed on a farm and his main interests have been connected with agricultural pursuits. In 1895 he came to his present farm and immediately began improving it, erecting his fine residence, with substantial barn and farm buildings and making it a very valuable property. Mr. Knouff was married October 13, 1892, to Miss Ida Lyon, who is a daughter of Jehial and Nannie (Morrow) Lyon and was born in Spring Creek Township, Miami County. They have three children: Elva, Marie and Lester. Mr. Knouff is one of the township's representative citizens.

EDWARD S. COX, postmaster and general merchant at Lena, in Miami County, Ohio, has a large and well established business and comes of one of the oldest families of the community. He was born in Lena, in 1863, and is a son of Dr. W. S. and Nancy L. (Duncan) Cox.

Dr. W. S. Cox was born in Brown Township and after completing the prescribed course in the public schools there, entered Cincinnati College of Medicine, from which he was graduated with the degree of M. D. Upon leaving that institution, he first engaged in practice at Plattsville in Shelby County, Ohio. From there he moved to Lena, where he practiced with uninterrupted success for a period of forty-five years, his death occurring there in 1898. He was married to Nancy L. Duncan, who was born near Fletcher, in Miami County, and they became parents of six children, as follows: Amanda (Brantner) of Conover; Lorilla (Johnston), a twin, who lives at Monroe, Michigan; Charles, twin of Lorilla, who died aged four years; Edward S.; George S., who lives at Lena; and Arminta (Wolcott), deceased.

Edward S. Cox attended the public schools in Brown Township and the Piqua High School, of which he is a graduate. After leaving that institution he clerked for Joseph Frazier at Conover two years, after which he carried on operations on his father's farm for five years. At the end of that time he bought out the store of S. G. Frazier at Lena, and has been in business there continuously for seventeen years. He carries a large and complete stock of general merchandise, including everything for which there is a demand in a small place, and enjoys a fair share of the patronage of the community. He has been postmaster at Lena for ten years, and has discharged the duties of that office with marked efficiency.

Mr. Cox was united in marriage with Mary Brecount, a daughter of A. and Sarah Brecount of Brown Township, and they have a daughter, Maude, who is the wife of Howard Weaver of Troy. Politically, he is a Republican. He is a prominent Mason, belonging to the Blue Lodge at Lena, the Chapter at St. Paris, and the Council at Troy. In religious attachment he is a member of the Universalist Church at Conover.

HENRY D. APPLE, a leading citizen of Newberry Township, the owner of the fine seventy-five acre farm on which he lives and which lies one and one-half miles southwest of Bloomer, was born on a farm in Darke County, Ohio, west of Versailles, June 23, 1860, and is a son of Solomon and Eve Lavina (Gephart) Apple.

When Mr. Apple was six years old his parents moved to a farm in Newberry Township, Miami County, and there he was reared. On August 7, 1880, he was married to Miss Sarah A. Rhoades, a daughter of George and Matilda (Erisman) Rhoades. The parents of Mrs. Apple were born and married in Montgomery County, Ohio, and prior to Mrs. Apple's birth, they moved to a farm in Shelby County, two miles north of Mr. Apple's farm. There she was born and grew to womanhood, and there her parents still reside. The children of George Rhoades and his wife are: Mrs. Elizabeth Voisard, Mrs. Laura Mosher, John, of Dayton; Mrs. Sarah A. Apple, William, of Bloomer; George, of Preble County; Mrs. Mary Oda, Mrs. Lucinda Martin and Peter Monroe, residing at Bloomer.

Mr. and Mrs. Apple went to housekeeping on the Apple home farm, where they lived for five years, and then moved to the present place. Here Mr. Apple has done a large amount of improving. In 1903 he erected his large frame residence, one of great comfort, and in 1908 he built his substantial barn, the dimensions of which are 40x80 feet, with an ell of 30x24 feet, a cement floor being laid all through. This is one of the best and most sanitary barns in the township. Mr. Apple carries on general farming, but makes raising of fine stock something of a specialty. For twenty years he has also been in the threshing business and for the past eight years has owned his own outfit. He is a very thorough, practical business man and all his industries are so planned that they never interfere with each other.

Mr. and Mrs. Apple have one child, Walter Monroe, who was born September 11, 1883, on the old Solomon Apple farm. He is the very capable manager of the home farm at the present time. He married Flora M. Brown, a daughter of Reuben and Amelia (Wagaman) Brown. Mr. Apple and family are members of the Lutheran Church.

WILLIAM B. BROWN, whose well improved farm of 152 acres lies one mile north of Fletcher, in Brown Township, Miami County, was born in Lost Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, September 19, 1833, the oldest child of S. K. and Mary (Ralston) Brown.

The Brown family was a pioneer one in Miami County and one of such importance as to leave an impress on this section, giving its name to the township and to a number of local points. It was founded by the grandfather, William Brown, who entered the land from the Government which now forms the farm of his grandson and namesake. He was a pioneer in all the enterprises that went to building up this section and lived a long and useful life.

S. K. Brown, father of William B., was born in Clark County, Ohio, but was reared from childhood in Lost Creek Township. After marriage he moved to an adjoining farm, on which he lived for seven years, his wife dying there. In 1844 he removed to Paulding County, and in 1847 to Oregon, and lived in the far West until his death.

He married Mary Ralston and they had four children.

William B. Brown accompanied his father to Oregon, being fourteen years old at that time, and after reaching that Territory, attended school for a short time. In 1866 he returned to Ohio and located on the old homestead but worked by the month for some three years before he took complete charge of the farm, since which time he has made the excellent improvements which include the erecting of a comfortable residence and a substantial barn. He grows grain, hay and fruit and raises enough stock for his own use. Mr. Brown married Miss Lou Brown, who is a daughter of John M. Brown, of Miami County. They are members of the Presbyterian Church. In politics he is identified with the Democratic party. He is one of the reliable and representative citizens of Brown Township.

JOHN JONES, a well known citizen and dairyman of Washington Township, Miami County, Ohio, resides on a farm of 191 acres located about three miles north of Piqua on the Hardin pike and is an extensive land owner in the county. He has been a resident of the township and located on his present farm for more than half a century. He is of Welsh descent but was born in Dauphin County, Penna., September 28, 1830. He is a son of Josiah and Catharine (Alaman) Jones, his father a native of Delaware, and is a grandson of James Jones, who came to this country from Wales.

John Jones was reared on a farm in Dauphin County, Penna., and received but little schooling. He was very young when it became necessary for him to make his own way in the world, and with the thrift characteristic of the Welsh race he worked and saved until he became a man of affluence. In 1858, some seven years after his marriage, he moved west to Miami County, Ohio, the earnings which he had saved up to that time amounting to $2,500. He purchased ninety acres of his present farm in Washington Township, and has added to it until it now consists of 191 acres. He and his sons own some 714 acres of land in the county, all well improved and under a high state of cultivation. A farm of 206 acres in Spring Creek Township, probably the best farm in the township, he purchased for $18,584 in cash, and erected thereon a new house at a cost of $2,500, in which his son William now lives. To work has been a habit with him, and although advanced in years, he would be discontented if his time was not employed to advantage. For the past twenty-five years he has conducted a dairy route in Piqua, and has the unique record of missing but one day on the route in eleven years. He has been prominently identified with the progress and development of Washington Township, and for seventeen years served as a member of the School Board.

When twenty years of age, John Jones was married to Louisa Wagner, whom he survives, her death occurring December 31, 1893. They became parents of the following children: Elizabeth, wife of Josiah Wilkinson, of Piqua; Henry, who lives in Shelby County, about one mile north of the home of his father; Mary, wife of John Thompson of Shelby County; William, who lives on the farm before mentioned in Spring Creek Township; Laura, who lives at home; Josiah, who died leaving a wife and children; John, deceased, who was a prominent farmer of Washington Township; Emma, who died in childhood; and Louisa, who also died in childhood. Religiously, Mr. Jones is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

GEORGE L. DU BOIS, a representative citizen and general farmer of Washington Township, residing on a valuable farm of eighty-seven acres, which is owned by his mother, Mrs. Laura Ann (Howe) Du Bois, was born in Spring Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, November 5, 1872, and is a son of William T. and Laura Ann (Howe) Du Bois.

William T. Du Bois was born near Franklin, Ohio, and died at Piqua, February 26, 1902. He was a son of William Du Bois, who bought a farm in Washington Township, on the Clayton turnpike, on which he died. William T. Du Bois spent his life in Miami County. He married Laura Ann Howe, a daughter of Alexander Howe, who was a farmer and also at one time captain of a canal boat. Mrs. Du Bois was born at Piqua, where she still resides. They had three children, namely: William, residing at Piqua, where he is assistant cashier of the Piqua Savings Bank; and Alexander and George L., both of Washington Township. In the latter's boyhood, William T. Du Bois and wife moved to Washington Township, where he owned three farms aggregating 217 acres and was one of the leading men for a number of years. In June, 1901, he retired from active life and moved to Piqua, where he resided until his death in the following February.

George L. Du Bois was reared and educated mainly in Washington Township and has devoted his entire mature life to agricultural pursuits. The farm on which he resides is situated four miles west of Piqua, on the old Piqua-Carrington road. It is a valuable tract of land and under the careful management of Mr. Du Bois produces abundantly. After marriage he settled on the homestead with his parents. In 1895 Mr. Du Bois married Miss Annie Wetzel, who is a sister of the wife of his brother Alexander and a daughter of John and Caroline (Thoma) Wetzel. The parents of Mrs. Du Bois were both born and reared in Germany and came to America on the same steamer, being married a year later. Mr. Wetzel still survives and resides in Washington Township, but his wife died October 18, 1886. They had seven children as follows: Charles, who died when aged one year; Frances, who is the wife of George Bausman, of Washington Township; Mary, who is the wife of Harley Mowery, of Piqua; Lewis, who resides in Washington Township; Lena, who is the wife of Alexander Du Bois, and Charles, a twin brother, who lives in Washington Township; and Annie, who is the wife of George L. Du Bois. Mr. and Mrs. Du Bois have one son, Stanley Edgar. They are members of the Christian Church. He belongs to the order of Knights of Pythias, having passed all the chairs in Stillwater Lodge at Covington, Ohio.

D. C. JOHNSON, a substantial citizen of Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio, owns and resides upon a farm of 180 acres located on the Troy Pike, about one mile southeast of Covington. He has lived on this farm since September 2, 1856, having at that time moved from Wayne Township, Montgomery County, Ohio, where he was born. The date of his birth is February 26, 1831, and he is a son of Joseph and Mary J. (Stoker) Johnson. His father was a native of Virginia and became a prominent farmer of Wayne Township, Montgomery County, whither he moved in his early days.

D. C. Johnson was the youngest of thirteen children and was but two years old when his father died and thirteen at his mother's death. He went to live with Squire Thomas Crook, father of General George Crook, who attained distinction in the Union Army during the Civil War. He and General Crook were reared to manhood together, and he continued to live at the Crook home until his marriage in 1852. He and his wife set up housekeeping on a farm of seventy-five acres in Wayne Township, which he owned, but in December of the same year moved to a farm one mile east of his present farm in Newberry Township, where he bought eighty acres. After three years he moved back to Wayne Township, Montgomery County, where he remained one summer. He then purchased 160 acres of his present farm, to which he later added twenty acres; a brick house had been erected on the place in 1852, which he has since more than doubled in size and improved in every way. He has other good substantial buildings on the place and one encounters few farms so well improved. He and his wife own a sixty-acre farm about a mile east of their home, which is farmed by their son, Henry Johnson.

On March 18, 1852, Mr. Johnson was joined in marriage with Mary Jane Brenner, who was born about seven miles north of the court-house in Dayton, in Wayne Township, Montgomery County, and is a daughter of Jacob and Sarah Ann (Mathews) Brenner. The following children were born to them: Sarah Ann, who died December 31, 1856, aged two years, ten months and twenty days; Henry, who was first married to Emma Kaufman (deceased), and second to Mary Dick; Jacob, a blacksmith of Covington, who married Lucy Dickey and has a daughter, Mary; William Clement, who married Henrietta Kruse, by whom he had a daughter, Clara, now deceased; and Oscar, who married Viola Landis and has two children living, Oscar Millison and Ferril Amanda. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have had fifty-seven years of married happiness, and are living in the enjoyment of comparative good health.

ROBERT F. GRAHAM, who has been a resident of Washington Township, Miami County, Ohio, since his early boyhood, with the exception of three years spent in the Union Army, is a farmer by occupation and has been active in the affairs of the community. He has been especially prominent in advancing the cause of education, and has been on the School Board for more than thirty years.

Mr. Graham was born about seven miles north of Enniskillen, in the north of Ireland, on the Sabbath Day, January 20, 1833, and although of Irish birth is of Scotch and English parentage. He is a son of William and Jane (Johnston) Graham, and was about six years of age when his parents, in 1839, emigrated to the United States. They first located at Pittsburg, Penna., for the winter, and in the spring of 1840 moved west to Shelby County, Ohio. Two years later they settled in Washington Township, Miami County, Ohio, where William Graham became the owner of a farm of eighty five acres on the Covington Pike.

Robert F. Graham was reared on the home farm and early turned his hand to farming pursuits. He remained at home until he answered his adopted country's call to arms, enlisting September 8, 1861, for three years' service as a member of Company K, First Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was in all of the engagements of his company, and although he saw much hard fighting, was never wounded nor captured. He was honorably discharged at Chattanooga, Tenn., September 8, 1864. He then returned home and resumed farming operations, at which he has since continued. He has been located on his present farm since 1876 and has a well improved property. He is a man of sterling ability and has a host of friends and acquaintances throughout this section of the country.

October 13, 1864, Mr. Graham was united in marriage with Miss Martha Jane West, a daughter of James and Jane (McCorkel) West, and they became parents of eight children, as follows: William J., who died in 1888, leaving a wife and one daughter, Ruth; John J., who lives with his father; Robert A., who is married and has two children; Nellie Jane, who died at the age of three years; Lulu B., who is the wife of Isaac Stanley and has a son, John R.; Jennie, who is the wife of Henry Scheafer of Bradford and has four children; Alice, wife of Arthur Toon, by whom she has two children, Helen and Ralph; and Martha E. Mrs. Graham was called to her final rest, April 4, 1887. Religiously, Mr. Graham is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Covington. He is a member of Alexander Mitchell Post, G. A. R.

I. A. CORWIN, one of Covington's well known citizens, who is agent for the Miami Valley Gas and Fuel Company, at this point, was born at Urbana, Champaign County, Ohio, February 29, 1836, and is a son of John R. and Sarah (Miller) Corwin.

In his infancy, the parents of Mr. Corwin moved from Urbana to Addison, where he grew to manhood and learned the carpenter trade with his father. When nineteen years old he accepted a position as clerk in a dry goods store at Urbana, where he worked for four years, and then came to Covington as manager of a branch store for the firm of Brown & Price, of Urbana. His management of the Covington branch was entirely satisfactory, but within a year the firm got into difficulties and made an assignment. The call for troops when the Rebellion broke out found the young clerk one of the first patriots to respond, his enlistment taking place on April 19, 1861, as a member of Company K, Thirteenth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, four days after the call was made. He served a little over three months and then returned to Covington, but re-enlisted on March 1, 1862, entering Company I, Sixty-first Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served a little less than two years when he was discharged for disability, and came home to recuperate. On May 10, 1864, Mr. Corwin again entered the Federal service, becoming second lieutenant of Company I, 147th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, serving 100 days and receiving his third honorable discharge. One of his most highly prized possessions is a certificate of honorable military service which bears the signature of the revered Abraham Lincoln. Mr. Corwin has been active in Grand Army circles and was a charter member of Langston Post, No. 299.

Mr. Corwin has been a continuous resident of Covington since the close of his military life. He entered into partnership with E. D. Simes, in the carpenter business, and this association lasted for thirteen years, and after the firm was dissolved he continued individual work for another thirteen years. Mr. Corwin can point out many substantial specimens of his construction work during the twenty-six years that he labored as a carpenter at Covington, his skill being very generally recognized by his fellow citizens.

Mr. Corwin was married to Miss Margaret E. Orr, a daughter of Josiah Orr and a sister of Col. Orr, of Piqua. Four children were born to this marriage, namely: John Sherman, who resides at Covington; Sybil, who died in 1874, was the wife of Walter Hill; Olive, who died in 1873; and William P., who is engaged in the gas business at South Charleston, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Corwin are members of the Christian Church. He has been identified with the Masonic fraternity for forty-four years and is a trustee of Covington Lodge, in which he has taken all the degrees. Being one of the older residents of Covington, he has been a witness of its remarkable development and, in as far as he has been able, he has furthered the good work. He is still actively engaged in business and has an unusually wide circle of personal friends.

MOSES B. WISE, a general farmer and representative citizen of Newberry Township, residing on his well improved farm of fifty-five acres, which is situated two miles southwest of Bloomer, was born on the old Moses Wise farm north of Bradford, Ohio, September 24, 1858. His parents were Moses and Elizabeth (Burkett) Wise.

The elder Moses Wise was born near Lebanon, Ohio, and died on his old home farm near Bradford, in November, 1897. He was twice married, his first wife, Elizabeth Burkett, being a native of Darke County, Ohio. She died April 8, 1860, when Moses B., the youngest of her thirteen children, was a babe of eighteen months. Moses Wise was married subsequently, to Mrs. Elizabeth (Sword) Ullery, and four children were born to that union.

Moses B. Wise was reared by his stepmother and remained on the home farm until his own marriage. This took place December 16, 1883, to Miss Anna Miller, who was born in Newberry Township, Miami County, on the farm lying south of the present Wise home. She is a daughter of Joseph and Anna B. (Bashore) Miller and when she was six months old, her parents moved into Darke County, where she was reared. The late Joseph Miller, who died March 22, 1909, at the age of eighty-four years, was born on the same farm as his daughter, November 25, 1824, and at the time of his death, was the oldest native-born resident of the township.

He was the last one of a family of ten children. His long life had covered a very important period of history in this section and he could recall the time when the whole extent of fertile, improved farming land which makes this section one of the garden spots of the State, was covered by a dense forest growth. He could remember when his parents and the neighbors had to make the long trip to Cincinnati in order to obtain the provisions necessary for subsistence. On December 4, 1851, he married Anna Bashore, a daughter of Jacob and Sarah Bashore, and they had six daughters and one son born to them. He is survived by his widow, four daughters and one son, and twenty-eight grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren, and a large circle of friends who long had lived under the kindly influence of his beneficent life. He was spared pain and suffering and seemed simply to pass away in the fullness of years. In the spring of 1854, he and wife were baptized in the Church of the Brethren and the Christian profession he then made he faithfully lived up to. He will be sadly missed from his accustomed place in the church.

After marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Wise went to housekeeping on a farm of eighty acres, situated just across the road from Wise homestead, in Darke County, living there for four and one-half years and then moved to a farm in Newberry Township, residing there for five and one-half years, on March 8, 1894, settling on the present place. Mr. Wise here carries on a general farming line and devotes four acres to tobacco and a part of his acreage to pasturage for his stock. In addition to cultivating his own land, he operates 131½ acres, which he rents from John Mummert. On June 2, 1897, Mr. Wise met with the misfortune of having his house burn down, but he immediately replaced it by the present large frame residence which has the appearance of comfort and stability. He also has improved his place by the erection of a substantial barn with dimensions of 36x76 feet and a tobacco shed, 24x50 feet in dimension. Mr. Wise is a man with very practical ideas and carries on his work systematically and successfully.

Mr. and Mrs. Wise have seven children, namely: Cora, Jesse, Joseph, Charles, Homer, Ella and Israel. Mr. Wise is a member of the Church of the Brethren. He takes no active part in politics, but he and family have always belonged to that class of citizens who uphold the law and through their quiet, exemplary lives, exert a strong influence for good in their community.

FRANK L. WHITMAN is a prosperous farmer of Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is the owner of a good farm of eighty acres in Section 22, range 5. He was born in Washington Township, Montgomery County, Ohio, October 31, 1859, and is a son of Edward and Mary (Waltz) Whitman.

Edward Whitman, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and was a small boy when he accompanied his parents to Washington Township, Montgomery County, Ohio. There he attended the district schools and was reared to maturity, living on the home farm with his father for a period of twenty-eight years. Farming has always been his principal occupation and he still lives in Washington Township at an advanced age. His wife died in 1887 and was buried near Miamisburg, Ohio. Her maiden name was Mary Waltz and she was a daughter of Jacob and Mary J. Waltz. The following children were born to them: G. A., Missouri, Frank L., Florence, Anna (deceased), Idella, George, Jacob, Lulu, Edna, Warren (deceased), Alvin, and Irwin. Religiously, Edward Whitman is a member of the Lutheran Church. He is a Democrat in politics.

Frank L. Whitman attended the district schools in his native township, but his schooling was very limited, he sometimes being able to attend but two weeks in a year. He was brought up to hard work and has always been industrious and enterprising. He lived in Washington Township until about a year after his marriage, then moved to Miami County, Ohio, where for a period of four years he engaged in farming and tobacco raising for Samuel Smith. He then began farming his present place of eighty acres in Newton Township, which he purchased in July, 1899. He cleared eight acres of this tract, there being some timber still standing, has laid considerable tile for drainage and has made other important improvements, including the erection of a fine tobacco shed. He has successfully engaged in general farming and tobacco raising, devoting about seven acres to the growing of that product each year.

December 20, 1883, Mr. Whitman was united in marriage with Miss Cora L. Smith, a daughter of Samuel and Katherine (Sherritt) Smith, and they became parents of the following children: Della, who married Jesse Shuman; Nora, who died at the age of two years; Homer and Minnie, twins, both now deceased; Raymond; John; and Carl. Religiously, they are members of the Lutheran Church. He is a Democrat in politics, but has no political aspirations.

JOSEPHUS THOMPSON, owner of one of the most valuable and best improved farms in Newberry Township, consisting of 280 acres of adjoining land, lying just south of Covington, on the Covington and Dayton turnpike road, was born on this place on January 10, 1840, on the site of the modern brick residence which he erected in 1888. His parents were Samuel and Hannah (Rench) Thompson.

Samuel Thompson was born in North Carolina and was a son of Sylvester Thompson, who settled near Pleasant Hill, in Miami County, when he came to Ohio, about 1804. Later he entered the land from the Government which his descendants own in Newberry Township and on Greenville Creek. He engaged in the cultivation of his land during his active years and in old age died in a comfortable home which he had built where he had found a dense forest. Samuel Thompson was two years old when his father came to Miami County and his whole mature life was spent in agricultural pursuits. He married Hannah Rench, who was born in Pennsylvania and was brought to Newton Township, Miami County, when a child of two years, by her father, Peter Rench. Samuel Thompson and wife had eleven children, six of whom survive.

Josephus Thompson has spent his whole life on the homestead farm and is surrounded with all the comforts that years of residence in one place make possible. For a long period he was the active cultivator of his broad acres, but it is no longer necessary for him to bear heavy burdens, his capable sons having relieved him of responsibility. They carry on general farming along modern lines, making use of the best farming machinery and securing most satisfactory results.

Mr. Thompson was married January 31, 1861, to Miss Amanda Rench, a daughter of Otho and Margaret (Elliott) Rench. She was born at Piqua, Ohio, and her mother also was born in Ohio, but her father came from Pennsylvania prior to his marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have had nine children, namely: Maggie, who married Isaac Bazill, a farmer of Newberry Township, has two children—Roscoe and Charles; Clement, who married Mina Ingle, has four children—Harry, Erla, James and Ruth, and they live on a part of the home farm; George, who resides with his parents, married Cora Brown, and they have had two children—Josephus, living, and Mellie, deceased; Dottie M., who married Levi Warner, of Covington, has two children—Clarence and Reva; William, who married Daisy Hill, resides on the home farm and they have two children—Judson and Leonard; Emma, who is the wife of E. A. Brant, of Covington, has three children—Hubert, Glenn and Helen; and Edwin, Minnie and an infant, all deceased. Mr. Thompson and family are leading members of the Christian Church. He is a good and willing citizen but has never cared for public office and has accepted none but that of school director.

CHARLES D. RHOADES, residing on his valuable farm of ninety acres, which is the old Rhoades homestead, situated about six miles northwest of Covington, on the Piqua-Versailles turnpike, in Newberry Township, is one of the representative citizens of this section and a member of one of its finest old families. He was born on this farm, August 24. 1871, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Sneck) Rhoades.

The Rhoades family belonged in Pennsylvania prior to being established in Miami County, Ohio. John Rhoades was born in that State but spent the greater part of his life in Ohio. He died in 1887. His farm contained 180 acres and it was divided between Charles D. and his brother, George C. Rhoades, the former taking the old home place and the latter the ninety acres to the east. John Rhoades was married twice, (first) to Barbara Apple, and the children of this marriage were: Elizabeth, who died in infancy; Uriah V., deceased; Noah, who was killed by lightning; John, Matilda and Suvilla, all of whom died from typhoid fever; Jacob, who was accidentally killed on the home farm, by a threshing machine; Henry, who died during the Civil War, a victim of the cruel treatment received while he was a prisoner in Libby Prison; and Mrs. Amanda Hittle, the only survivor, who is a resident of Anderson, Indiana. John Rhoades was married (second) to Elizabeth Schneck, who was born in Pennsylvania and died in Miami County, September 22, 1906. There were five children born to this marriage, as follows: Emma; W. Frank, who lives in Shelby County, Ohio; George C., who is a prominent farmer and citizen of Newberry Township; Allen Jefferson, who died when aged eight years; and Charles D., the youngest of his father's fourteen children.

Charles D. Rhoades was reared on the home farm and attended the country schools. His business through life has been farming and this he has carried on in a systematic manner that has produced very practical results. He has made many improvements on his place. The barn, which was built by his father, in 1865, is yet a very substantial structure, and the brick house, when first built, was one of the most imposing in this section. In 1901, however, Mr. Rhoades renovated it entirely, making changes in its appearance and adding to its comforts and conveniences.

On Thanksgiving Day, 1893, Mr. Rhoades was married to Miss Amanda Apple, a daughter of Solomon and a sister of Uriah S. Apple; prominent people in Newberry Township. They have three children: Firman Zeno, Viola and Irma. Mr. and Mrs. Rhoades are members of the Lutheran Church at Bloomer, in which he is a deacon.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN SMITH is the owner of 237 acres of land in Lost Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, his home farm consisting of 157 acres located about seven miles northeast of Troy at the intersection of a mud road and the Lost Creek Extension Pike. He was born on his father's farm in Montgomery County, Ohio, April 5, 1853, and is a son of Alexander and Isabella (Waymeyer) Smith.

Alexander Smith was born in Rock Bridge County, Virginia, in 1820, and was one of a large family of children. Although the father of this family was poor, he reared his children in the proper way and they all grew to be useful men and women in the various communities in which they lived. Alexander was the youngest member of the family, but because of his great size was generally referred to as the "big brother." He became a skilled workman as a blacksmith, learning the trade in Virginia in his youth. When a young man he left his native state because of his anti-slavery views, and later wanted the other members of the family to leave in order to afford their children better educational advantages. He came to Ohio on horseback and while passing through the swamps of Indiana was mired, which necessitated his walking the remainder of the way. He was about twenty years old when he arrived at Dayton, Ohio, and he soon erected a shop at Frederick, about twelve miles distant from that city. He later purchased a farm in Butler Township, Montgomery County, on which he erected a shop, and in addition to general farming he did many odd jobs of blacksmithing for his neighbors. He continued there until 1862, when he sold his farm and purchased the present home farm of the subject of this sketch, in Lost Creek Township, Miami County. Here he continued to live until his death in March, 1889. He married Isabella Waymeyer, in Montgomery County, she being a native of that county. Her death occurred about the year 1887. The following children were born to them: Sarah, wife of Joseph Ray; Jennie, wife of John Tobias; Benjamin Franklin; James; Wesley; Harrison; and William, who died at the age of one year.

Benjamin Franklin Smith, familiarly known as Frank, was about nine years of age when his parents moved to Miami County, and located upon his present farm. His education was limited and when quite young he began work on the home farm, on which he has since continued. Upon the death of his father he bought out the other heirs in this property, on which he has made many important improvements. The brick house in which he lives was erected in 1840. He has always been a hard and industrious worker, and all that he possesses has come through his individual efforts. He and his brother, James, purchased another tract of 160 acres in Lost Creek Township. Mr. Smith has traveled extensively through the South and West, and been pretty generally over

MR. AND. MRS. BENJAMIN F. SMITH

the country, but he considers the Miami Valley the "garden spot of the universe." In addition to the property mentioned, he also is the owner of five good residence properties in Casstown, and a small farm on the Miami River in Staunton Township.

June 6, 1889, Mr. Smith was married to Miss Anna Tobias, a daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Whip) Tobias, from near Dayton, both of her parents now being deceased. She was one of the following children born to them: Jonathan; Mary Elizabeth, wife of J. Jackson; Sarah, wife of John Barnett; Laura; Anna; Walter; and Daniel, who died young. Politically, Mr. Smith is a Republican.

CHARLES F. ANDERSON, who has been a life-long resident of Miami County, Ohio, is the owner of a good farm of eighty acres, located just west of the corporation line of the city of Piqua, in Washington Township, on the Clayton pike. He was born in Spring Creek Township, two miles east of Piqua, November 16, 1856, and is a son of Robert and Elizabeth (Graham) Anderson.

Robert Anderson was born in Kentucky and was a son of Robert Anderson, who came from Kentucky to Miami County, Ohio. The latter settled on a farm in Spring Creek Township, about three miles east of Piqua, but later sold out and bought a farm on the St. Mary's pike, three miles north of Piqua. He lived there several years, then retired from business and spent the final years of his life in Piqua. Robert Anderson, Jr., was about twenty years of age when his parents moved to this county from Kentucky. He became a farmer of considerable importance and lived on a good farm in Spring Creek Township, on which he resided until his death in 1904. His widow makes her home in Piqua. She was born in that city and is a daughter of John Graham, who owned a grist mill south of Piqua. The marriage of Robert Anderson and Elizabeth Graham resulted in the birth of four children, namely: John F., superintendent of the paper mills at Piqua; Margaret, wife of Louis Koester; Charles F.; and Harriet, who lives with her mother.

Charles F. Anderson was reared on the farm in Spring Creek Township, and received a good common school education. He has always engaged in agricultural pursuits, and for thirteen years rented the farm across the road from the property he now owns in Washington Township. He purchased his farm in 1906 and has converted it into one of the best improved places in the vicinity. He erected a fine frame house, which he has equipped with a furnace and other modern improvements which tend to add comfort to rural life. Mr. Anderson was united in marriage with Miss Ella Blood, who was born and reared in Piqua and is a daughter of Jeremiah Blood. They have three children, namely: Carrie May, a graduate of Piqua High School and a teacher in the public schools of that city; Walter F.; and Frances L. Religiously, they are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

UZAL E. HILL, owner of a well improved farm of 160 acres located about six miles northeast of Piqua, in Spring Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, has lived in that community nearly all his life and is widely known among its citizens. He was born on his present farm, December 16, 1844, and is a son of Samuel and Eliza (Edwards) Hill.

Samuel Hill was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, where he was educated in the common schools and took up the occupation of a farmer. In 1839, some time after his marriage, he moved to Miami County, Ohio, and settled in Spring Creek Township, on the farm now owned by his son, Uzal E. He cleared all but ten acres of his farm and erected the residence which now stands on the property. He was married to Miss Eliza Edwards of Butler County, Ohio, where her father was a farmer, and they became parents of the following children: One who died in infancy; Mary J., who lives in Miami County; Uzal E.; W. S., who lives one-half mile west of the old home, in Spring Creek Township; and Charles C., who resides in Dayton.

Uzal E. Hill was educated in the public schools of his home district and has always engaged in agricultural pursuits. He has lived all his life on the home place, except for a period of eleven years, five years of that time being located on an adjoining farm and six years on a farm in Shelby County. He follows general farming and has one of the best improved places in his vicinity. The farm is located on the Snodgrass Pike.

Mr. Hill was united in marriage with Miss Sarah J. Sanders, who died March 13, 1909, a daughter of Abraham and Elizabeth Sanders of Spring Creek Township, where her father followed carpentering and farming. Six children were born of their union, namely: George W., who died at the age of four years; C. Frank, who operates the home farm; Farran B., who died at the age of seventeen years; Walter R., who lives on forty acres of the home farm in Spring Creek Township; Letha G., who died at the age of twenty years; and James B., who lives near Piqua. The last named married Oda Slack and they have a son, Harrold. C. Frank Hill married Clarinda A. Valentine, a daughter of Samuel and Nancy Valentine of Shelby County, Ohio, and they have a son, Lester. Walter R. Hill married Alma Duncan of Piqua, and they have three children—Uzal, Leona and Arthur. Politically, Uzal E. Hill is a Democrat and has taken a deep interest in the success of the principles of that party. Religiously he is a member of the Baptist Church. He was township trustee for three years and was also road supervisor for several terms.

ELI FLORY, a representative citizen of Newton Township, who resides on his valuable farm of 110 acres, situated in section 31, range 5, was born September 4, 1860, in Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Brumbaugh) Flory. The parents of Mr. Flory came to Miami County from Montgomery County, Ohio, and lived in Newton Township until they retired to West Milton, where the father died July 7, 1904. His burial was in the Pleasant Hill Cemetery. The family consisted of seven children—Emanuel, Eli, Davis and Emma (twins), Frank, Wesley and Charles. The mother survives and resides at Pleasant Hill.

Eli Flory obtained his education in the Pike and Ashland schools in Newton Township. From youth he has taken an interest in agricultural pursuits and before purchasing his present farm, he rented farms for some years, in Newton

Township, and is very familiar with the condition and natural fertility of different properties; this knowledge he utilized when the time came for him to buy a farm of his own. He found about ten acres yet remaining to be cleared and this he soon had in a proper state for cultivation. The old buildings were torn down and new ones, of a substantial character, took their places and he has now a finely improved property, the result of hard work and good management.

On March 9, 1880, Mr. Flory was married to Miss Margaret Stichter, a daughter of Jacob and Louisa Stichter, and they have four children, namely: Frank, who married Lulu Harshbarger, and has one child, Elizabeth; and Joseph, Truda, and Louisa, all residing at home. Mr. Flory and family attend the Dunkard Church. In politics he is a Republican and has served most acceptably in several township offices, particularly as road supervisor and as turnpike superintendent.

CHARLES S. McMACKEN, one of Covington's representative citizens, residing on North High Street, a member of the Town Council and engaged in a dairy business, was born March 27, 1871, on a farm in Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio. His parents were John and Martha (Ullery) McMacken.

The grandfather, also John McMacken, removed from Pennsylvania to Butler County, Ohio, residing there for a number of years. He came to Miami County, Ohio, when his son John, who was born in Butler County, Ohio, was fifteen years old, settling on a farm three miles northeast of Covington. There the latter grew to manhood. His first marriage was to Margaret Rike and to which were born three children, namely: Jennie, who is the widow of William Hackendorn and resides in Piqua; James H., who lives in Logansport, Indiana; and John Lewis, also a resident of Logansport. John Jr.'s second marriage was to Martha Ullery, who was born in Newberry Township, a daughter of John Ullery, and three children were born to this union: Forrest Lee, residing at Piqua; Charles S.; and Emma, wife of D. R. Longanecker. John McMacken, Jr., died April 6, 1905, his wife having passed away July 3, 1898.

Charles S. McMacken was born and reared on the farm. He attended the public schools in his home neighborhood and later graduated at the Covington High School in 1890, following which he graduated at C. E. Beck's Business College, at Piqua, Ohio. For a year he was a rural mail carrier and for six months was engaged as a railway mail clerk, between Pittsburg and Indianapolis, but failing health caused him to resign the latter position, and in February, 1903, he came to Covington, where he has since carried on a dairy business, as already mentioned.

Mr. McMacken married Miss Minnie Boggs, who was born at Nevada City, Missouri, and brought to Newberry Township, Miami County, in infancy, by her parents, Alden and Margaret (Atchison) Boggs. Mr. and Mrs. McMacken have six children, namely: Chalmer Lynn, Tracy B., Martha Margaret, Lucile Irene, John Alden and Hubert Lamar. Mr. McMacken is a member of the Presbyterian Church, where he is an usher, while his wife belongs to the Christian Church. Fraternally, he is associated with the Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias, and is also a member of the

Dramatic Order of Knights of Khorasan. He has been an active citizen and served as a school director in Newberry Township for two years and for the past two years has been a member of the Covington Council.

WILL H. HOLFINGER, who has been in the railway mail service for the past five years and now is connected with the Panhandle Railroad branch between Indianapolis and Pittsburg, was born on a farm near Covington, Ohio, July 15, 1877, and is a son of George and Christina (Flammer) Holfinger. George Holfinger was born in Germany and came to America with his father, Barnhart, when five years old. He married Christina Flammer, who was also born in Germany, and they became farming people in Miami County.

Will H. Holfinger grew up on the home farm and attended the country schools, graduating from the Bradford High School in 1896. The following four years were spent teaching in the country schools of Newberry and Newton Townships. In 1901 he completed the scientific course in the Ohio Northern University at Ada, Ohio. He then became principal of the Bradford High School, a position he filled for two years prior to successfully taking the civil service examinations. The railway mail service entails many hardships and the position of a mail clerk is an exacting one and can only be efficiently filled by a man of trained faculties and comprehensive education.

In 1905 Mr. Holfinger was married to Miss Alma Catherine Roeth, a daughter of Carl and Catherine (Wagner) Roeth, and they have two children, Carroll De Witt and Kathryn Christina. Mr. Holfinger and wife are members of the Lutheran Church. The family home is a fine brick residence which Mr. Holfinger erected at Covington in 1907.

J. D. WEAVER, general foreman of the Pennsylvania Railroad shops at Bradford, Ohio, has occupied this responsible position for the past twelve years, and has been identified with this great corporation since March 25, 1880. He was born November 22, 1855, in Jay County, Indiana, and is a son of J. W. and Sarah Ann Weaver.

Mr. Weaver comes of farming people and he lived on a farm until he went into railroad work. From 1880 until 1897 he was in the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad at Indianapolis, Indiana, and was then transferred to Bradford, where he has become a valued and respected citizen. He is no politician and wants no office, but he is always ready to help along any public movement that promises to benefit the town in which he has his pleasant home and many friends.

In Indiana Mr. Weaver was married to Miss Mary J. Williams, and they have had six children, namely: Sarah Ann, who is the wife of Thomas Williams; Isabella, who is the wife of Ralph Reed and has one child, Ralph; John Edward, who is deceased; William H., who is employed in the Pennsylvania Railroad shops at Bradford; and Jessie Lovina and Edna. Mr. Weaver is a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the Modern Woodmen of America.

ISREAL ROUTSON, one of the highly esteemed citizens of Newberry Township, who is now living practically retired at his home two miles southwest of Bloomer, is the owner of two fine farms of seventy-five and twenty acres, respectively. He was born October 8, 1835, on the old Routson homestead, two miles southeast of Bloomer, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of George and Nancy (Able) Routson, natives of the State of Maryland.

Mr. Routson was reared on the home farm, and when eighteen years of age started to learn the trade of mason, being for five years engaged in plastering and brick-laying at Piqua, after which he engaged in agricultural pursuits, and for thirty-five years continued therein on his farm in Newberry Township, erecting all the buildings on the property and making other improvements. In latter years he has lived practically retired, and his property is being operated by tenants. Mr. Routson was married to Eliza Swank, who was born and reared near the Lutheran Church in Newberry Township. Both are members of the German Baptist Church.

CHARLES W. BAUSMAN, M. D., physician and surgeon, at Bradford, Ohio, where he has shown a good citizen's interest during his five years of residence, was born on a farm in Washington Township, Maimi County, Ohio, and is a son of Emanuel and Anna (Ingle) Bausman, now both deceased.

Dr. Bausman was reared on the home farm and obtained his early education in the country schools. After completing a course at the Lebanon Normal School he was prepared to teach, but from boyhood he had cherished the ambition of becoming a physician, and in 1900 he entered the medical department of the University of Cincinnati. He was graduated there May 25, 1905, and in the following July he established himself at Bradford, where his medical knowledge and surgical skill soon brought him a satisfactory practice, while his personal qualities made him friends. Dr. Bausman married Miss Armina Schilling, a daughter of Richard Schilling. He keeps in close touch with all matters pertaining to his profession, being a member of the Miami County, the State and the American Medical Associations. He belongs also to the Masons and the Maccabees.

ARTHUR C. RHOADES, one of Bloomer's representative business men, junior member of the firm of Peterseim & Rhoades, operating a grain elevator at this point, and proprietor of a bicycle repair shop, is also secretary of the Bloomer Home Telephone Company. He has been a resident of Bloomer since 1893 and was born on a farm in Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio, one mile east of Bloomer, December 3, 1871. He is a son of John and Mary (Shaeffer) Rhoades. John Rhoades was also born in Newberry Township and bore his father's name. He carried on farming all his mature life, in Newberry Township, where he died about 1875. His widow survives, being now the wife of George Shearer.

Arthur C. Rhoades is the only child of his parents living. He was reared in Newberry Township and there obtained his education and engaged in farming until he came to Bloomer. He still owns a farm of sixty-nine and one-half acres, which he rents out. He entered into partnership with his father-in-law, in the grain elevator business, when he came to Bloomer, and several years later started his repair shop.

Mr. Rhoades married Miss Edith Peterseim, a daughter of Martin A. and Mary Peterseim, and they have one son, Leslie. Mr. Rhoades built the fine frame residence in which he resides. He is a leading member of the Lutheran Church.

EBERHART W. MAIER, probate judge of Miami County, to which office he was first elected in 1905, was born in Covington, Miami County, Ohio, January 14, 1861, son of Michael and Mary (Neth) Maier. He is of German parentage, his father, Michael Maier, having been born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1835, his mother being also a native of the same place, and a daughter of George Neth. Michael Maier was a wagon-maker by trade, and after coming to the United States in 1853, found employment at this industry at Hartford, Connecticut, where he remained for four years. He came to Covington, Ohio, in 1857, and for some years conducted business in a small shop on the Troy turnpike. Afterwards, during the Civil War, he purchased the shop of C. M. Gross and carried on his trade for many years, retiring on account of an injury, in April, 1905. His shop was a well known landmark for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Michael Maier had six children—George E., Eberhart W., John, Michael, Charles A., Anna, and Catherine. George E. died in 1903, aged forty-eight years. He was twice married; first to Miss Mina Pearson, of which union there was one child, Harley, who is now a resident of Troy. John Maier left home at the age of sixteen years and subsequently took up a land claim in Nebraska. He married at the age of thirty-one and had six children. Michael F. Maier, who is a commercial traveler, has his residence at Covington. He married Mollie Goehering and they have two children. Charles A., who resides in Piqua, married Mary Reed, and they also have two children. Anna Maier married Clark Reed of Piqua. Catherine became the wife of Barney Smith, who came from Wurtemberg, Germany.

Eberhart W. Maier, the direct subject of this sketch, began his education in the public schools of Covington, and on completing the usual course, entered the High School. Here, however, he remained but until the end of his freshman year on account of an accident to his father being compelled to leave school. He accordingly worked for a year and a half at carriage blacksmithing, but not liking it he gave it up at the end of that time to enter a paint shop, where he remained for three years. He then went to Cincinnati and learned ornamental and fresco painting. Finding, however, that painting did not agree with his health, he found himself obliged to give it up in turn, and under Cleveland's first administration he entered the railway mail service, running between Indianapolis and Pittsburg, and also for a time, between Indianapolis and St. Louis.

He followed this occupation for about three years and at the end of that time entered the employ of the Troy Buggy Works as a traveling salesman, also working for them as draughtsman for ten years. During his last six years on the road he studied law, carrying his books with him, and studying late at night, early in the morning, and on Sundays. As the result of his arduous application, he was admitted to the bar in December, 1900, and in the same month of the following year began the practice of his profession in Troy. He was first elected to the office of probate judge in 1905, taking the oath of office February 9, 1906. Although a Democrat and the county being usually Republican by about 1,500, Mr. Maier was elected judge by 545 majority on this occasion. In the fall of 1908 he was re-elected by a majority of 1,644—evidence conclusive that his administration of the office had been pre-eminently satisfactory.

Judge Maier was married in 1887, October 9th, to Anna M. Henne, a daughter of John and Margaret A. Henne. They have one son, William Henne Maier, who was graduated from the Troy High School in 1909. Judge Maier is the only Democrat on the Troy Board of Education, on which he has served four years, being now president of the Board. He is also judge of the Juvenile Court of Miami County, and was one of the five members of the commission which met at Columbus and at Springfield and drafted the new Juvenile Court law of Ohio, which was passed April 23, 1908. He has been an Odd Fellow twenty-five years, is also an Elk, a member of the Junior Order of American Mechanics, and a member of the Ancient and Honored Order of Gobblers, of Covington, Ohio.

ALEXANDER HOWE DU BOIS, a representative citizen of Washington Township and for the past five years a member of its School Board, resides on the farm of eighty acres which still belongs to his mother, and which has been his home since he was seven years old. He was born in Spring Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, April 12, 1870, and is a son of William T. and Laura Ann (Howe) Du Bois.

The late William T. Du Bois was born at Franklin, Ohio, and was a son of William D. Du Bois, who came to Washington Township when William T. was young. The latter grew up here and subsequently married Laura Ann Howe, who is a daughter of Alexander Howe, who once owned a farm here and also a canal boat. She was born at Piqua, Ohio, where she now resides. After marriage, William T. Du Bois and wife moved to Spring Creek Township and later to Washington Township, where they owned three farms. Prior to the death of Mr. Du Bois they settled at Piqua and there he died February 23, 1902.

Alexander H. Du Bois was reared and educated in Washington Township and has been manager of the present farm since attaining his majority. He carries on a general line of agricultural work, raises excellent crops and some fine stock. Mr. Du Bois married Miss Lena Wetzel, who was born and reared in Washington Township, a daughter of John and Caroline (Thoma) Wetzel. Mr. and Mrs. Du Bois have two children, Grace L. and Gwendolyn O. Mr. Du Bois is a member of the Christian Church. He takes the interest of a good citizen in politics and is ever mindful of the public needs of his neighborhood. He has shown his interest in educational matters by consenting to serve so long on the School Board.

FRED DURR, who conducts an undertaking and upholstering business at Bradford, Ohio, is one of the town's active and enterprising business men. Mr. Durr was born on a farm in Adams Township, Darke County, Ohio, August 30, 1882, and is a son of John and Christina (Hatter) Durr. The Durr family has been known in Darke

County for many years. The mother of Mr. Durr died there in February, 1900. The father engaged in farming through all his active years and now lives retired in Richland Township, Darke County.

Fred Durr was reared on the home farm and obtained his education in the country schools and the high school at Gettysburg, Ohio. When nineteen years old he began to learn the undertaking business with I. B. Miller, of Gettysburg, with whom he remained for three years, after which he went to Harrison, Ohio, and there embarked in business. Two years later he came to Bradford and opened his present establishment on November 7, 1907. He does considerable business in the upholstering line and has every necessary equipment for the decent and proper direction of funerals. Mr. Durr married Miss Etta Rohr, a daughter of Matthew Rohr. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Fraternally he is identified with the Masons and the Odd Fellows.

DAVID WARNER owns a fine farm of 105 acres in Newberry Township, about two and one-half miles north of Covington, but has been a resident of that village for some eighteen years. He was born at Union, Montgomery County, Ohio, February 23, 1828, and is a son of Jacob and Susan (Brumbaugh) Warner, both natives of Pennsylvania.

Jacob Warner died in Montgomery County, Ohio, about the year 1835. His wife was married four times, her first union being with a Mr. Seas. She afterward married Andrew Warner, then Jacob Warner (brother of Andrew and father of our subject), and fourthly Isaac Hoover, whom she survived many years.

David Warner was about seven years old at his father's death, and was about fourteen, when after his mother's marriage to Mr. Hoover, they moved to Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio, first locating near Harris Creek. There he grew to maturity with the usual experiences of the farm youth of that period, early turning his attention to the farm work. After his marriage he and his wife set up housekeeping on the farm he now owns and they lived there for almost forty years. He cleared the land and made all the improvements, including the erection of a substantial residence and a good set of farm buildings. He moved with his wife to Covington in 1891, and is one of the best known residents of the place. After fifty-six years of happy married life, he was deprived of his wife's companionship by death, the date of which was August 18, 1908. She was Hetty Miller in maiden life and was born in Darke County, Ohio, March 31, 1833, being a daughter of Jacob Miller. The following children were born to them: Jacob, deceased; Susan, deceased; John, who lives in Greeneville, Ohio; Martin, of Covington; Mary (Mohler); Cassie (Kindell), deceased; Levi; David, deceased; Hetty (Murray), deceased; and James Franklin, deceased. Levi Warner was joined in marriage with Miss Dottie Thompson and they have two children: Clarence Edward and Reva Marie. They reside at Covington with their grandfather, Mr. Warner. David Warner is a devout member of the Church of the Brethren, in which he has been a deacon for more than forty years.

The following is a list of Mr. Warner's grandchildren and great-grandchildren:

Grandchildren—Mamie I. Warner, Forest A. Warner, Levi F. Warner, Maurice S. Warner, Frank J. Warner, Clifford Warner, Luther R. Warner, Lucy M. Warner, Millard F. Warner, Carl G. Warner, Clarence Mohler, Alice Mohler, Lueffie Mohler, Edna Kindell, Mary Kindell, Walter Kindell, Hettie Kindell, Elsie Kindell, Grace Kindell, Lucretia Warner, Roxie Warner, David O. Warner, Clarence E. Warner and Reva M. Warner.

Great-grandchildren—Chester A. Hocker, Mary A. Warner, Herschel D. Warner, Maud Mohler, Joseph Mohler, Grace Mohler, Helen Mohler, Evelyn Filburn, Glenna May Filbrun, Roy Dale Morris, Minor Clarance Morris, John Lee Morris, Helen L. Ratchford, Arthur E. Ratchford, Thanette Myers, Ralph Myers, Russell Eberwine, Scipio Eberwine, Luther Robbins, Mary Alexander and Alma Alexander.

ALEXANDER ROBISON, deceased, for many years was one of the representative men and substantial farmers of Spring Creek Township. He was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, near Cincinnati, August 7, 1827, and died on his farm of 200 acres, in Spring Creek Township, Miami County, November 27, 1884. His parents were John and Margaret (Rogers) Robison.

John Robison, father of the late Alexander, was also a native of Hamilton County, born there August 10, 1876, and came to Miami County in 1839, where he died March 27, 1840. John Robison was a son of Alexander and Nancy (Patterson) Robison, natives of Ohio, who had the following children: Mary, Sarah, William, James, Alexander, Nancy, John, Jennie, Thomas, Mattie and Betsy, and at that time the family name was spelled Robeison. This family has always been an agricultural one and at different times has owned large estates in Ohio. John Robison married Margaret Rogers, who was born July 29, 1803, and died December 18, 1887. Their children were the following: Mary, born November 16, 1825, died September 5, 1829; Alexander, born August 7, 1827, died November 27, 1884; John, born April 26, 1831, died June 9, 1866; Jane, born December 3, 1833; Martha, born October 13, 1835, died June 31, 1854; Margaret, born September 20, 1837; and Andrew, born August 21, 1839. Andrew Robison is a veteran officer of the Civil War.

Alexander Robison was twelve years old when his father came into Miami County and settled with his family in Spring Creek Township, on the farm on which both father and son lived and died. Mr. Robison was a man of excellent business capacity, was a man of sterling traits of character and was one who, in life, was respected by all who knew him and whose death caused his fellow citizens to feel that the community had experienced a distinct loss.

On October 19, 1852, Alexander Robison was married to Miss Maria Lyon, who was born September 7, 1828, and is a daughter of Samuel and Margaret (Pendry) Lyon. Mrs. Robison's father was a native of New Jersey, and her mother, of Maryland. To Mr. and Mrs. Robison were born seven children, namely: David, born August 25, 1853, died June 25, 1889; William, born June 7, 1857, died March 24, 1860; Jennie, who married William Meeker, of Shelby County, has four sons, Clarence Earl, Howard Robison, Harry Alexander and John Edwin; Charles A., who married Laura Denman, resides in Texas; Lydia, who lives with her mother; Frank, who married Ida Williams, resides at Lyle, Washington, and has had four children, Willard Andrew, Margaret Marie, Mary Helen, and Frances Irene, the second and third being deceased; and Edwin A., who married Laura Jones, lives at Portland, Oregon. Mrs. Robison is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

GEORGE W. PECKHAM, a representative business citizen of Troy, vice-president of the Peckham Coal and Ice Company, and doing business both at Troy and at Piqua, was born in Huron County, Ohio, March 20, 1835, where he attended school until he was fifteen years old.

From Huron County, Mr. Peckham went to Darke County; he later lived at Sidney, Piqua, Springfield, going from the latter place to Illinois. When he returned to Ohio he came to Troy, in June, 1863. In the spring of 1864 he enlisted in Company H., Ohio Volunteer Infantry, but received his discharge the same year and this county has since remained his chosen home. For a few months he was with the sash and door factory and then, in partnership with his brother, W. C. Peckham, he engaged in the marble business for about four years, after which he resumed work as a carpenter, a trade he had learned in early manhood. Some four years later he bought a farm west of Troy, on which he resided for twenty-two years and then returned to the city, where he conducted the old Peckham Hotel for one year. Later he bought out the coal and ice business of Evan Makepeace, which he conducted for several years before organizing the Peckham Coal and Ice Company and developing the present very large enterprise. The company has built a modern ice plant, of twenty-tons capacity, at Troy and a sixty-ton plant is almost completed at Piqua, in order to handle the business at that point. The company is made up of Mr. Peckham and his four sons, F. J. Peckham being president, and Charles Peckham secretary.

In 1866 Mr. Peckham was married to Miss Lovina J. Shilling, and they have six children: David H., who is cashier of the Peckham Coal and Ice Company; George, who is engaged in the automobile business at Dayton; F. J.; Charles; Daisy, and Jennie. Mr. Peckham and family are members of the Baptist Church at Troy.

SAMUEL A. MOUL, manager of the Daniel Moul Lumber Company, at Pleasant Hill, Ohio, which has a branch yard at Gettysburg, Darke County, was born in the latter place, September 6, 1886, and is a son of Daniel and Martha (Arn) Moul.

Daniel Moul, father of Samuel A., is president and manager of The Daniel Moul Lumber Company, dealers in lumber, builders' hardware, glass and paint, and he is manager of the branch yard at Gettysburg, while his son manages the business at the main yards at Pleasant Hill. The officers of the company are: Daniel Moul, president and manager; Samuel Berger, vice president; John M. Moul, secretary and treasurer; and Samuel A. Moul, manager as above stated. Daniel Moul was born at York, Penna., September 13, 1854. He married Martha Arn, daughter of Ernest and Martha Arn, and to them were born the following children: Charles, now deceased; John, who married Carrie Moore, a daughter of John and Alfaretta Moore, has one son, Charles; Daniel, who married Meda Clark, a daughter of Milton and Amanda Clark, has one son, Daniel Clark; Stella and Samuel A., twins, the former of

MR. AND MRS. GEORGE W. PECKHAM

whom married Clarence Miller, of Gettysburg, Ohio, has three children, Homer, Imogene and Ethylen; and Elizabeth A., who is bookkeeper and stenographer at Pleasant Hill, for the Daniel Moul Lumber Company. Daniel Moul and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics he is a Democrat and in former years took quite an active interest in public matters. He is a thirty-second degree Mason and belongs to the Blue Lodge at Gettysburg.

Samuel A. Moul was liberally educated and after completing the High School course at Gettysburg, took a commercial course at Poughkeepsie, New York, after which he filled the position of bookkeeper for the Ohio Lumber Company at Ironton, Ohio, for one year and then came to Pleasant Hill as manager of this plant. The business is a large one and employment is given a number of men. Mr. Moul married Miss Emma Ashman, a daughter of John and Etta Ashman. Politically he is a Democrat, but takes little interest beyond casting his vote for his party's candidates, his business occupying the largest part of his attention. He is identified with the Elks at Ironton and the Odd Fellows at Pleasant Hill. He is recognized as one of the enterprising young men of this place, one who is able to make practical use of his sensible education.

A. J. HOFFERT, who is foreman of the car department of the Pennsylvania Railroad at Bradford, Ohio, has been in the railroad service since 1888 and has had much experience. He was born at Bremen, Fairfield County, Ohio, May 22, 1868, and is a son of Philoman and Catherine Hoffert.

A. J. Hoffert resided at Bremen through his school days and was eighteen years of age when he went to Indianapolis and from there to Brightwood, where he learned car building. He worked there for two years for the old Bee line, was then at Denver, Colorado, for a year with the Union Pacific and for eight months for the same road worked at Salt Lake City, after that he pushed on to Portland, Oregon, and during the three months he remained there, he worked as a house carpenter. He then went to San Francisco and for three years was in the employ of the Southern Pacific. The great World's Fair at Chicago led him eastward again, and after enjoying it he returned to Indianapolis, where he worked as a house carpenter for a year and then resumed railroad work with the Panhandle line. On April 1, 1902, he came to Bradford to accept his present position, one which he has most efficiently filled ever since. Mr. Hoffert married Miss Maria C. Scholl, and they have two children, Ruth and Helen. He is a member of Capital City Lodge, No. 97, Knights of Pythias of Indianapolis; and of Yukon Tribe, No. 312, Improved Order of Red Men, also of Indianapolis.

ANDERSON SNYDER, whose well improved farm of seventy acres is situated in Newberry Township, at the northeast corner of the Range Line turnpike and the Piqua-Versailles road, about five miles northwest of Covington, was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, February 5, 1857, and is a son of Emanuel Nelson and Huldah (Wysong) Snyder.

When Anderson Snyder was one year old his parents moved to a farm situated in Miami County, one-half mile north of his present farm, and they still reside there. On that farm Anderson Snyder was reared. He went to school during boyhood, in Newberry Township, after which he helped his father and later engaged in farming for himself. His life has been entirely given up to agricultural pursuits and he continued to cultivate his land himself until 1908, when he retired from active work and rented out his farm. For four years after his first marriage, he lived in Shelby County but in 1886 he came to Miami County and settled on this place. Two comfortable dwellings, one of brick and the other of frame construction, were standing when he bought the place.

Mr. Snyder was married (first) to Miss Harriet Rhoades, a daughter of John Rhoades. Mrs. Snyder died September 11, 1890, the mother of three children, namely: Clarence Cleveland, who resides on a farm in Shelby County, one and one-quarter miles north of his father's farm, married Izora Fesler and they have one child, Mabel Marie; Marion Monroe, who died when aged fifteen years; and Dora Dell, who is the wife of Franklin Gish. Mr. Snyder was married (second) February 25, 1893, to Mrs. Mina (Stiver) Gangwer, widow of Samuel Gangwer and daughter of Jonathan and Eliza Ann (Method) Stiver. Mrs. Snyder was born in Elkhart County, Indiana, and her father died on the old farm there in 1899. Her mother still survives. Mrs. Snyder has two sons born to her first marriage: James Edward, who married Orpha Cooper, and Harvey C. To Mr. and Mrs. Snyder one son has been born, Forest Franklin. Mr. Snyder takes no very active part in politics, but votes with the Democratic party. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder are well known people in this section and they always have a hospitable welcome for their friends.

LOUIS LANDMAN, proprietor of the Loramie Mills, in Washington Township, which are situated three miles northeast of Piqua, is a native of Germany, where he was born November 30, 1841. His parents were Henry and Christina Landman.

Louis Landman learned the milling business with his father, in Germany, and he was twenty-four years of age when he came to America. He located first at Greenville, Ohio, then went to Mercer County, where he worked for three years in a mill, after which he worked for a short time at his trade in a mill situated between Piqua and Troy. He next went to Missouri and for one year was employed in a mill at Hamlin and then came to Miami County and worked for a year in the very mill he now owns. He then went into the lumber business in Indiana and remained there for twelve years but returned to Miami County in 1886 and purchased his present mill property. He put the machinery in the best possible condition, made many improvements and his patronage is large. He produces flour of both wheat and rye, corn meal and buckwheat and also feed. His specialty, Gilt Edge flour, has a wide sale through the county.

Mr. Landman married Rachel Nusbaum, who was born and reared in Wayne County, Ohio, and they have had fourteen children, the seven survivors being: Jenette; Reuben, married, who works for his father in the mill; Henry, who is a miller at Springfield, Ohio; George; Carrie; William, who is a miller at Dunkirk, Indiana; and Gladys, who is a student in the Piqua

High School. Five children died in infancy; Emma died when aged fifteen years, and Frederick when aged eleven years. Mr. Landman and family are members of the German Methodist Episcopal Church of Piqua, of which he is one of the trustees. He is one of the reliable and respected citizens of Washington Township.

ALBERT WARNER, who owns 100 acres of the old Araon Warner homestead of 160 acres, lying on the Sears Turnpike Road, two miles northeast of Bradford, Ohio, was born on the farm which adjoins on the north, June 26, 1868, and is a son of Aaron and Charlotte (Bosserman) Warner.

The Warner family may be numbered with the pioneer ones of Newberry Township, the grandfather of Albert, Henry Warner, coming at an early day and settling on the farm on which his grandson now lives. His son Aaron was a boy at the time, having been born in Montgomery County. For many years Henry Warner made this farm his home, and then moved to a farm south of Bradford, where he died in advanced age. Aaron Warner married Charlotte Bosserman, who was born in Darke County, Ohio, a daughter of Solomon Bosserman, an old and respected man there. To this marriage were born five children, namely: Lovina, who is the wife of Frank Martin, residing in Darke County; David, who lives near Pleasant Hill; Almira, who is the wife of Isaac Young, of Darke County; Alice, who is the wife of John Brumbaugh, residing in Darke County; and Albert, who is a twin brother of Alice. Aaron Warner died in the fall of 1907, surviving his wife for one year.

Albert Warner was three years old when his parents came to his present farm, and this has continued to be his home ever since. Only those who have grown up in one place and watched its development and had the secure home feeling that possession gives can appreciate how much Mr. Warner, for many reasons, values this place, the home of his childhood, boyhood, youth and maturity. His residence is a comfortable brick house that was built by one of the early settlers, a Mr. Hoover. He carries on a general line of farming, raising wheat, oats, corn, hay and stock, also tobacco. Mr. Warner married Miss Ida Crowel, a daughter of Daniel and Matilda (Harmon) Crowel, an old Newberry Township family, and they have four children: Emery C., Mildred, Louis and Charles. Mr. Warner and family are members of the Church of the Brethren.

ELBERT M. BELL, attorney-at-law and city solicitor of Piqua, a practitioner in the State and Federal Courts, was born in 1870, in Logan County, Ohio, and from the local schools entered Findlay College at Findlay, Ohio, where he completed his literary education.

After leaving college, Mr. Bell entered upon the study of law with Marion G. Bell, at Bellefontaine, Ohio, and received his degree of law at the Ohio Northern University in 1897. In the spring of 1898 Mr. Bell enlisted for service in the Spanish-American War, entering Company F, Second Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and remained with his regiment in camp at Chickamagua, Macon and Knoxville until December, 1898, when he was assigned to detached duty as clerk to General Bates, who was then the military governor of Santa Clara Province, Cuba, and he remained in that capacity in Cuba until February, 1899. After he returned to the United States he was mustered out at Macon, Georgia, and shortly afterward located at Piqua. For four years he was associated in law practice with L. R. Drake, and in December, 1906, he was appointed city solicitor, in the fall of the following year being elected to the same office. His service has been very satisfactory and the office has never been better administered.

In October, 1899, Mr. Bell was married to Miss Martha E. Rosebrook, of Big Springs, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Bell are members of the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church, Piqua. He takes a hearty interest in politics, especially in the public affairs of city and county, and has proved himself an effective party worker. Mr. Bell is identified with the Piqua Business Men's Club, is treasurer of the Young Men's Christian Association and belongs to the Spanish-American War Veterans, the Home Guards of America, the Golden Eagles and the Knights of Pythias.

C. ROY COPPOCK is a well known citizen of Pleasant Hill, Miami County, Ohio, and has charge of the correspondence of the Jesse Beery Company, of that place. He was born in Bradford, Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio, September 4, 1874, and is a son of Elwood and Sarah (Younce) Coppock, and a grandson of Benjamin Coppock.

Benjamin Coppock, the grandfather, was one of the early settlers of Miami County, and was located on a farm east of Ludlow Falls, in Union Township. He lived there until his death in 1890, and was buried at Union Cemetery, as was his wife, who survived him some years. Her maiden name was Ester Mills and they had three children, two of whom are living, David M. and Elwood. Religiously they were members of the Society of Friends. He was a Whig in politics.

Elwood Coppock was born at Ludlow Falls, Miami County, where he lived until after his marriage, when he moved to Bradford and conducted a shoe store. He remained there four years and then carried on the same business in the state of Arkansas. Returning north, he became a traveling salesman, at which he has since continued, being first located at Goshen, Indiana, and then at Logansport, Indiana, where he now lives. He is a Republican in politics. He was married to Sarah Younce, a daughter of David Younce, and they became parents of six children, as follows: Minnie, Lulu, C. Roy, Frank (deceased), Cado (deceased), and Ester (deceased).

C. Roy Coppock first attended school in Arkansas, then at Goshen, Indiana; Webster, Indiana; Fountain City, Indiana; Pleasant Hill, Ohio; Richmond, Indiana. In the meanwhile he learned sign painting, and the trade of a baker, which he followed for a time, and he also followed the insurance business. He engaged in selling sewing machines prior to accepting his present position with the Jesse Beery Company, of Pleasant Hill. He served four years as city clerk at Pleasant Hill and proved a most efficient officer. He is a Republican in politics. October 29, 1903, Mr. Coppock was united in marriage with Miss Effie Whitmer, a daughter of John W. and Frances Bell Whitmer, and they have a pleasant home in Pleasant Hill. Fraternally he is a member of the Masonic Lodge, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Junior Order United American Mechanics.

WILLIAM J. RAKE is a prominent farmer of Washington Township, Miami County, Ohio, residing just west of the corporation line of Piqua, on the Clayton pike. He was born almost directly across the road from his present farm, September 10, 1862, and is a son of Amos and Sarah (Keyt) Rake.

Amos Rake was born in Clinton, New Jersey, and was a son of William Rake, whose occupation was that of a farmer but who was sheriff and jailer in Clinton, New Jersey, for a period of thirty years. Amos was reared in his native community, and was there married to Miss Elizabeth Smith. Six children were the offspring of this union, of whom two are now living: Mary, wife of Jacob Gertner, of Piqua; and Nancy, wife of A. J. Brotherton, of Delphos, Ohio. With his family, Amos Rake moved to Miami County, Ohio, some time between 1850 and 1855, settling on a farm on the Washington pike in Washington Township. His first wife died within a few years after their coming, and on March 7, 1870, he formed a second union with Miss Sarah Keyt, mother of the subject of this sketch.

The Keyt family is an old and prominent one in Washington Township, and in Piqua. James Keyt, father of the wife of Amos Rake, and his brother, John Keyt, were masons here in the pioneer days, and built many of the early brick houses. James Keyt was born in Elizabethtown, Essex County, New Jersey, and was a son of James Keyt, who was a carpenter and contractor in New Jersey, and met his death by falling from a scaffold. The father of the latter was also named James, and was of English birth; he too met a violent death, being thrown from a horse and killed. James Keyt, father of Mrs. Rake, was married to Elizabeth Widney, January 23, 1820, and his brother John was married to her sister. Nine children were born to them, of whom two are now living: Mrs. Margaret Jane Lines, of Piqua; and Mary Widney Keyt, who owns fifty-three acres of the old home place and lives with her nephew, William J. Rake. Mrs. Keyt died in September, 1848, and James Keyt died in January, 1849.

Mrs. Sarah (Keyt) Rake, mother of the subject of this record, died in 1892, and was survived many years by her husband, who passed away in 1905. William J. Rake was reared in his native township, and has always followed farming. He is unmarried and resides with his aunt, Mary Widney Keyt, whose place he also farms. He has in his possession a Bible bought by his grandfather, James Keyt, which is said to have been the first Bible bought in Miami County. He is a man of business ability and integrity, and is most highly esteemed by his many friends in the community.

DAVID J. ROUTSON, a member of the Newberry Township School Board and a representative of a prominent old family of that township, is the owner of a fine farm of eighty-one acres, located where the C., H. & D. Railroad crosses the Piqua and Versailles pike. He was born on a farm across the road from his present home, February 13, 1867, and is a son of Reuben and Catherine (Rhoadeheffer) Routson.

Reuben Routson, who has never lived for a day off the farm across the road from that of the subject of this sketch, was born August 5, 1833, and is a son of George and Nancy (Able) Routson, both natives of Maryland. George Routson was married in Maryland in the spring of 1831, and immediately thereafter moved with his wife to Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio, where they settled on what has since been known as the Routson home place, located on the Piqua and Versailles pike, about six miles northwest of Covington. Reuben Routson was the second of eight children born to his parents, of whom but four are now living. His father died at the age of fifty-two years, and his mother at eighty-eight. He was reared on the farm and learned the trade of a carpenter, which he followed steadily for twelve years. He has since followed farming on the home place, on which he built all the buildings now standing. He has seventy-four acres in this place, and is also the owner of a farm of 110 acres about three miles southeast of his home. He is a Democrat in politics, and served his township as trustee and assessor.

February 28, 1861, Reuben Routson was married to Kate Rhoadeheffer, who was born and reared in Montgomery County, Ohio, and when eighteen years of age accompanied her parents, David and Margaret (Apple) Rhoadeheffer, to Newberry Township. Ten children were born to them, namely: George W., who is county school examiner and lives at Troy; Margaret, wife of John Christian, a farmer of Darke County; Elizabeth, who died at the age of two years; David J.; Angeline Belle, wife of Henry Ballinger, a farmer of Darke County; Mary Jane, wife of Amos Fessler; Sarah Ann, wife of Charles H. Miller, of Piqua; Ida May, wife of I. M. Apple, a saw-mill operator, of Newberry Township; Wesley S., who farms his father's farm north of Covington; and Suvilla Josephine, wife of Uriah Apple, a farmer of Newberry Township.

David J. Routson was reared on the farm on which his father still lives, and received a good public school education. He has always followed farming, and when he was married, set up housekeeping on the farm of 110 acres owned by his father and located three miles north of Covington. He lived there ten years, then came to his present farm of eighty-one acres. He has a large brick house, which was erected by a Mr. Shafer as early as 1864. He is a Democrat in politics and is now serving his second year as a member of the School Board. He has always followed general farming and has been uniformly successful. He is vice-president and treasurer of the Bloomer Telephone Company, and is a stockholder of the Stillwater Valley Banking Company, and also a stockholder in the Piqua furniture factory.

Mr. Routson was united in marriage with Miss Sarah A. Apple, a daughter of Solomon Apple, who was a prominent farmer of the township and who died in 1900. Four children were born to this union: Meda, Inez M., Norma I., and Vesta E. Religiously they are members of the Lutheran Church, of which he has been secretary for twelve years.

JOSHUA GRUBB, who resides on his well improved farm of 120 acres, which lies in Section 31, Newberry Township, one and one-half miles southwest of Covington, is one of the leading citizens of this part of Miami County. He was born October 23, 1844, on a farm in Newberry Township, one mile west of Covington, and is a son of John and Catherine (Walmer) Grubb, both of whom were born in Pennsylvania, but were married in Miami County.

Joshua Grubb went to school and grew to manhood in Newberry Township. He was nineteen years old when he enlisted for service in the Civil War, entering Company F, 147th Regt., O. Vol. Inf., on May 1, 1864, and was stationed in West Virginia and at Washington, D. C., until his term of enlistment was over, September 15th of the same year. He saw a large amount of the suffering caused by war, but escaped any personal injury, and after he returned home he resumed farming, which has been his main occupation. For seven years he was also interested in contracting, and built many pikes and house foundations in the county, living then at Bradford. In 1880 he bought his farm, on which he has resided ever since. It is excellent land, and is well improved and carefully cultivated.

Mr. Grubb married Miss Frances E. Cable, and they had two children, Bertha, who is the widow of Harry Bowers; and Audrey, who lives at home. Mr. Grubb was bereaved of his wife on July 24, 1908. She was a most estimable woman in every relation of life. In politics Mr. Grubb is a Republican, and he has acceptably served as township trustee. He is identified with the Grand Army of the Republic and the Masons.

DAVID ARNOLD, senior member of the well known business firm of D. Arnold & Son, dealers in lumber, cement, coal and builders' supplies, at Bradford, Ohio, and also vice-president of the Bradford Bank, is a prominent citizen of this section, and is identified with its best interests of every kind. He was born on a farm located along Greenville Creek, in Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio, May 8, 1840, and is a son of John and Mary (Thompson) Arnold.

John Arnold was also born in Miami County, and was a son of David Arnold, who came to this section from South Carolina and obtained a deed to the Arnold homestead farm in Newberry Township, which bears the date of 1820. His grandson and namesake possesses the deed, and also owns ninety-six acres of the farm. On this same farm the second David Arnold grew to manhood, leaving it for the first time when he enlisted in the service of his country on August 12, 1861. He was a member of Company B, Forty-fourth O. Vol. Inf., during the whole of the war until January 5, 1865, when he re-enlisted at Strawberry Plains, Tennessee. The infantry regiment was disbanded on account of having served its time out, and when it was reorganized it was as the Eighth Ohio Cavalry. He served in it until the close of all hostilities, and was mustered out with the rank of quartermaster sergeant, at Clarksburg, West Virginia, in August, 1865. During this long period Mr. Arnold performed every duty required like a good soldier, and his military record is one of which he may be proud.

When his military life was over, Mr. Arnold returned to the home farm and continued agricultural pursuits until 1872, when he came to Bradford and entered into the lumber business. In succeeding years he enlarged the scope of his original interests to include other commodities, and admitted his son to partnership, and has a very large plant at present, and gives employment to a number of men. Since 1892 he has also been in partnership with Nathan Iddings in the grain business, and with Mr. Iddings organized the Bradford Bank, which they own.

In 1865 Mr. Arnold was married to Miss Mary Ross, a daughter of Samuel Ross, and they have had seven children, the three survivors being: Armina, who married Charles Weaver and has two children, Myrtle and Gertrude, the former being her grandfather's bookkeeper; John T., junior member of the firm of D. Arnold & Son, who married Ida V. Brant and has one son, Lawson; and Mary Gertrude, who married R. D. Hoover, a resident of Carnegie, Pennsylvania.

CHARLES F. PERKINS, one of the prominent young business men of Pleasant Hill, cashier of the Pleasant Hill Banking Company, of which he is one of the heaviest stockholders, was born July 5, 1882, in Owen County, Kentucky, and is a son of George and Martha Ellen (Payne) Perkins. The parents of Mr. Perkins were natives of Kentucky, and his mother still survives and resides at Covington. His father died April 20, 1891. He was a member of the Baptist Church. To George Perkins and wife three children were born: Walter, who died when aged eighteen months; Charles F.; and Elzie, who married Gertrude Smith, daughter of George Smith, of McHenry, Kentucky, and has one child, Iola.

Charles F. Perkins was educated in Owen County and the State University at Lexington. Immediately after completing his college course he became bookkeeper for a banking institution at Wheatley, Kentucky, where he remained for two years. From there he went into a bank at Ghent, Kentucky, and was assistant cashier for two years, and then came to Pleasant Hill, in March, 1907. Mr. Perkins came here a stranger, and opened up his bank when almost unknown, but he did not long remain so, for his square dealing and careful, conservative methods soon appealed to both capitalists and the people at large, and a hearty support soon placed this financial institution among the leading ones of Miami County. He invested in property, showing his intention to make this town of pleasant name and environment his permanent home, and now owns his own handsome residence, together with three town lots. He has shown a hearty interest in public affairs, and during the recent local option campaign against liquor gave three weeks of his valuable time to presenting this issue to the people. In politics he is a Democrat.

Mr. Perkins was married November 27, 1907, to Miss Effie Roberts, a daughter of W. A. Roberts, of Ghent, Kentucky. They are members of the Baptist Church. He is a member of Pleasant Hill Lodge, F. & A. M., of Pleasant Hill.

GEORGE E. KINNISON, a well known farmer and representative citizen of Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, is the owner of sixty acres of land in Section 26, Range 4, of that township. He was born in Washington Township, Miami County, Ohio, April 5, 1864, and is a son of George and Elizabeth (Halderman) Kinnison.

George Kinnison was born in Virginia December 9, 1831, and was five years of age when he moved with his parents to Jackson County, Ohio. There he grew to maturity and lived until he was twenty-eight years of age, then moved to the vicinity of Covington, in Miami County, Ohio. He had a farm lying partly in Newberry and partly in Washington township, on which he lived until 1877, when he bought a sixty-acre tract in Newton Township. He continued on the latter until 1900, then moved to the place where his widow now lives, about one-half mile south of Covington. He died there on May 9, 1909, and was buried at Pleasant Hill Cemetery. Religiously, he was a member of the Christian Church. He was a Democrat in politics, and took an earnest interest in public affairs, but never dabbled in politics. Mr. Kinnison was married in Jackson County, Ohio, to Miss Elizabeth Halderman, and they were parents of the following children: Clara, Mary F., Laura, George E., Emma, Rosa, Wesley, Myrtle, Ella, and one who died unnamed.

George E. Kinnison first attended what was known as White's schoolhouse, one mile east of Covington; after six terms in that school, his parents having moved to Newton Township, he attended the Buckeye school in that township. He next engaged in farming, working out by the month, until his marriage in 1884, when he moved onto a twenty-acre farm in Newton Township. He moved from that place in 1895 to the sixty acres on which he now lives, in the same township. He first lived in the old log house, which was built on the place by John Sloan at an early date, but more recently has occupied a fine new frame house which he erected. He also put up the other buildings on the place, and has made many other important improvements, including the laying of 1,000 rods of tile for drainage. He is a Prohibitionist in politics, and served three years as township trustee, as well as member of the school board at different times.

In February, 1884, George E. Kinnison was married to Mary J. Awker, a daughter of James and Malvina Awker, and they became parents of five children, namely: Elmer, who married Blanche Niswonger, daughter of David and Nellie Niswonger, and has a daughter named Ruth; James; Clyde F.; Wilbert D., and Stephen. Religiously, they are members of the Christian Church, and Mr. Kinnison serves as financial secretary of the church organization.

M. D. MYERS, who has been identified with the business interests of Bradford, Ohio, for almost forty years, is proprietor of a prosperous boot and shoe house enterprise here, and has been connected with this line of industry ever since boyhood. He is one of the pioneer business men of the place. He was born in Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, July 19, 1838, and is a son of Michael and Feronica (Deppler) Myers.

When Mr. Myers was two years old his parents moved to Lancaster, Pennsylvania, where the father followed his trade of weaving. M. D. Myers did not adopt this trade, but before he was twelve years of age was learning the trade of shoemaking, and before he was eighteen years old ran a shop of his own. He then moved to Pleasant Hill, Miami County, Ohio, in the spring of 1856, where he worked at first for a shoemaker and then opened a shop of his own. One year later his parents joined him, and it was in his home that his father died when aged ninety-four years. In the spring of 1870 Mr. Myers came to

Bradford, and immediately started to erect the building in which he has carried on his business ever since. He has always been an active and public-spirited citizen, and ever ready to do his full share in advancing the interests of Bradford, serving faithfully through a number of terms in the Town Council, and also on the School Board.

Mr. Myers first firmly established himself in business before returning to Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, to marry Miss Hannah L. Gingrich, a most estimable lady who had a wide circle of warm friends in Bradford. She died in February, 1908. There were seven children born to them, as follows: Ellen Catherine, who married Henry Miller, residing near Oakland, Darke County; Matilda Alice, who married John R. Shaffer, residing at Olney, Illinois; Ulysses Grant, who resides in Iowa and is a shoemaker; George, a cabinet maker who resides at Bradford; Mary Olive, now deceased, who was the wife of Albert Klinger; Nora May, who is deceased; and Harry, who resides at Dayton, Ohio. Mr. Myers is an elder in the Presbyterian Church, and in this religious body he has reared his children and hopes to see his thirty-three grandchildren united in the same faith. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

JACOB WIDENER, deceased, formerly one of Covington's representative business men and highly esteemed citizens, was born at Covington, Ohio, September 22, 1845, and was a son of Jacob and Margaret (Fahnestock) Widener. Both the Widener and Fahnestock families came from Saxony, Germany, and a complete ancestral line, together with the old coat of arms, is in the possession of the widow of the late Jacob Widener.

The first Jacob Widener, father of Jacob (2), was born in Franklin County, Pennsylvania, April 9, 1809, his father having come directly from Germany. In his earlier years, Jacob Widener worked as a tanner at Strasburg, Pennsylvania. In October, 1834, he was married at Landisburg, Pennsylvania, to Margaret Fahnestock, and in the spring of 1836, with their oldest child, William Fahnestock, they made the journey to Ohio by wagon, and in the fall of that year settled near Covington, Miami County. Jacob Widener started into business first with a tin shop and later, after a period of official life, he embarked in a hardware business in which he continued until succeeded by his son. He was one of the charter members of the Christian Church which was organized at Covington in 1837. A Democrat, he was elected by that party first a justice of the peace and was later appointed postmaster of Covington under the administration of President Polk. Upon retiring from that office he was elected county recorder, and during that time lived at Troy, and in 1850 moved from there to Versailles, where he was a dry goods merchant and also conducted a tannery. In 1866 he returned permanently to Covington, founding the hardware business at that time. His death occurred April 12, 1882, when aged seventy-three years.

Jacob Widener, the second, was reared in Miami County and attended school at Troy, Versailles and Piqua. He succeeded his father in the hardware business and conducted it until 1899, when he sold out and lived more or less retired from that time until his death on May 21, 1905, at

JACOB WIDENER

the City Hospital, at Dayton, Ohio. He was a worthy and valued member of the Christian Church, in which he was a member of the choir for many years and he served for a like period as treasurer of the Sunday-school. Personally he was a man of many admirable and amiable qualities and he had a wide circle of friends. He was identified with the order of Odd Fellows.

On April 13, 1870, Mr. Widener was married to Miss Julia J. Birely, who was born at Lebanon, Ohio, and is a daughter of Joseph and Effie (Samson) Birely. To this marriage were born four children, namely: William B., born January 30, 1871, died in February, 1872; Manley B. and Stanley F., twins, born February 1, 1872, the latter living at Pomona, California, the former of whom lives at Chicago, Illinois; and Edna Lulu, born September 24, 1879, who married William Conrad, a contracting and construction engineer. Mr. and Mrs. Conrad had one son, William Widener, who lived but six days. Manley B. Widener married Etoile Patterson. Stanley F. Widener married Minnie Webb and they have one daughter, Catherine Lavinia.

ALBERT R. PATTY, junior member of the mercantile firm of Stahl & Patty, doing a large and satisfactory business at Bradford, was born on a farm in Adams Township, Darke County, Ohio, February 22, 1877, and is a son of Finley H. and Lucinda (Jay) Patty. The former died in 1884, but the latter survives.

Albert R. Patty grew to manhood on the home farm, and attended the country schools. Later he spent several winters teaching school in Newton and Franklin Townships, the former in Miami and the latter in Darke County, and then embarked in the mercantile business at Bradford, in partnership with J. W. Stahl. The firm began in rather a small way, but have gradually expanded until their stock includes dry goods, groceries, clothing and men's furnishings, and carpets, and they occupy a large amount of floor space and give employment to a number of workers. Mr. Patty was married to Miss Essie Redinger, and they have one son, George Finley. Mr. and Mrs. Patty are members of the Presbyterian Church, in which he is a deacon. In politics he is a Republican, and at present is serving in the office of city treasurer. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity.

W. A. MINTON, M. D., has been engaged in the practice of medicine at Bradford, Ohio, during the past twelve years, and lives on the Darke County side of the village. He is a son of Dr. W. H. H. Minton, who practiced medicine at this place for more than thirty-seven years.

Dr. W. H. H. Minton was born in Dayton, Ohio, August 13, 1837, and was a son of William Minton. He attended the public schools of that city, after which he completed a course in Miami University at Oxford, Ohio. He studied medicine under the preceptorship of Dr. Belleville at Dayton, and first engaged in practice at Laura, in Miami County, Ohio. After several years at that point he moved to Bradford, where he continued in active practice for thirty-seven years. He was a man of wide acquaintance and high standing, and his death, which occurred May 7, 1909, was mourned as an irreparable loss to the community. He was first married to Elizabeth Shellenberger, by whom he had three children: Ellis S., Kitty, deceased, and Harry. He formed a second union with Miss Margaret Faulkner, and they became parents of four, as follows: Dr. W. A. Minton; Myrtle May, deceased; Paul B. Minton, D. D. S., who is in practice at Bradford; and Ida Ruth, an instructor in the fourth grade of the Bradford schools.

Dr. W. A. Minton was born in Bradford February 26, 1873, and was there reared to maturity. He attended the Bradford grade and high schools, graduating from the latter in 1891, then completed a preparatory course at Lebanon Normal School. He received his professional training in Starling Medical College at Columbus, Ohio, and Louisville Medical College, receiving the degree of M. D. from the last named on March 6, 1894. He embarked in practice at Union City, Indiana, where he remained but six months, then opened an office in Bradford. He enjoys great popularity among the people, and has a good practice. He is a member of the Miami County Medical Society. The Doctor was united in marriage with Miss Jessie Darner, and they have a comfortable home in the village.

JOHN WORLEY, who owns and cultivates a very valuable farm of seventy-five acres, which is situated in Newberry Township, four and one-half miles northwest of Covington, was born July 9, 1857, in Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio, on a farm three miles north of the one he owns. His parents were Aiken and Lydia (Fulker) Worley.

Aiken Worley was born in Shelby County, Ohio, just across the line from Miami, where his father, John Worley, settled when he came very early to this section, from Pennsylvania. After he grew to manhood and married he moved across the line and settled on a farm about one-half mile from his old home, and cleared that farm and spent the remainder of his life on it. He acquired other land, and formerly owned the farm on which his son, John Worley, resides, but never lived on it. His death occurred in 1890. He married Lydia Fulker, who was born in Newberry Township, Miami County, and died here in 1903.

John Worley remained at home until he reached manhood, during these years working for his father, and then went to work for others and engaged by the month, continuing to work in that way for about twelve years. He took possession of his present farm in January, 1885, and has carried on general farming here ever since. He found the place needed considerable improving, and in 1905 he erected his substantial barn and also remodeled the house, making it both attractive and comfortable.

Mr. Worley was married (first) to Miss Catherine Fesler, who died in 1893. He was married (second) to Miss Mary Mowery, who was born in Illinois and was five years old when her parents moved to Newberry Township, Miami County. They were Martin and Elizabeth (Ullery) Mowery. Her father was born in Pennsylvania and her mother on a farm situated one-half mile east of Covington. They lived in Miami County for several years after coming from Illinois, the father engaging in farming in Newberry Township. He died in 1897 and was survived by his widow until April, 1902. Mrs. Worley is a member of the Progressive Brethren Church.

ALLEN COPPOCK, a highly respected citizen of Pleasant Hill, where he now lives retired from active pursuits, still retains his Newton Township farm and is one of the stockholders of the Pleasant Hill Banking Company. He was born March 14, 1838, in Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Joseph C. and a grandson of William Coppock. The Coppocks were among the earliest Quaker settlers in this section of Miami County, and they have always been numbered with the reliable and substantial people. William Coppock engaged in teaming and his wagons were operated between Cincinnati and the outlying settlements. His home was at Ludlow Falls. He married Eunice Cotchran, and they had three children: Joseph, Susan and May. William Coppock died about 1812 and his burial was one of the first in the East Union Cemetery, a Friends' burying ground. His widow survived for many years.

Joseph C. Coppock was born in a log cabin which still stands near Ludlow Falls, Miami County, Ohio. He engaged in farming after his first marriage, later moved to the old mill property near Pleasant Hill, after his third marriage, but in the interim had resided for some years with his son Allen. He died in June, 1896, and was interred in the East Union Cemetery. For a number of years he was justice of the peace. Joseph C. Coppock was married (first) to Sarah Jay, daughter of William Jay. She died in 1841, the mother of three children: William, Allen and Henry. Mr. Coppock was married (second) to Sarah (Aldrich) Conway, a daughter of Varnum and Margaret Aldrich, and two children were born to this union: Amanda and Frank M. His third marriage was to Bianca Barrett, a daughter of Thomas Barrett.

Allen Coppock attended school until he was about twenty years old, first near the Quaker meeting-house and later the district schools, and completed his education at a well known educational institution on College Hill, Cincinnati. He assisted in operating the home farm after his return, until 1864, when he enlisted in Company A, 147th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served four months as a soldier. He escaped all injury, and after his marriage, which took place in a short time, he settled down to farming one mile south of Pleasant Hill, in Newton Township, where he had 144 acres, which he operated until 1871. He then traded farms with his father, taking the old homestead, and there continued to live until 1898, when he retired to Pleasant Hill. Mr. Coppock is in the enjoyment of excellent health, and taking advantage of his leisure, has done some traveling in recent years. On December 18, 1908, he made a very interesting and enjoyable visit to California, and during this trip spent two months at Santiago, two months at Los Angeles and also saw the sights of San Francisco, the city rising from its ruins, and on the way back home stopped over in Colorado and Salt Lake City. Such a trip is not only interesting but educational. He reached home April 16, 1909.

On June 21, 1865, Mr. Coppock was married to Miss Maria E. Furnas, a daughter of Joseph and Margaret Furnas, and they have had the following children: Sarah, Joseph, Margaret, Fred D., Jeddie Carlton, Mary Ethel, Allen B., Harry and Clarence C. Sarah married L. A. Kesler, and has three children. Joseph married Ida Moler, a daughter of Ephraim Moler, and they have two children—Jay S. and Josie. Margaret married Omar Patty, and they have three children—Clarence, Joseph and William A. Fred D. married Maude Miles, a daughter of John and Susan Miles, and they have two children—Dorothy and Eugene. Jeddie Carlton married Zoe De Bra, a daughter of John and Mary Ann De Bra. She died October 29, 1905. He married (second) Bonnie Weaver, a daughter of John Weaver. Mary Ethel married Harry Brown, and they have one daughter, Margaret. Allen B. married Grace Dickey. Harry, born December 22, 1868, died August 10, 1870. Clarence C., born June 24, 1873, died March 15, 1879. Mr. Coppock joined the Masons in 1868 and has been identified with the Pleasant Hill lodge ever since. In political affiliation he is a Republican, but he takes no active part in campaign work. He is a member of Dan Williams Post, G. A. R., No. 369, Pleasant Hill.

JOHN CLARK HARSHBARGER, who comes of an old and respected family of Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, is engaged in general farming and lives upon and owns a farm of forty acres in Section 12. He will also be the owner of ninety-two acres at his mother's death, willed that way by his father. He pays his mother a dowry of one-third, which formed a part of the old homestead. He was born in this township, December 15, 1861, and is a son of George K. and Mary Ann (Sipes) Harshbarger.

George K. Harshbarger was born in Union Township, Miami County, Ohio, where his father was among the pioneer settlers. He engaged in farming throughout his active life, and became the owner of a valuable property in Newton Township. He died at Atwood, Illinois, in 1902, and is survived by his widow, who resides at Pleasant Hill. They were parents of two children: Mina, and John Clark Harshbarger.

John C. Harshbarger attended the public schools in Newton Township and assisted his father in the work on the farm, a part of which he helped to clear. After his marriage he set up housekeeping on the ninety-two acres of the home place his mother now owns and lived there for twenty-one years, at the end of which time he moved to his present farm. He is engaged in general farming and tobacco raising, having about three acres in the latter product. He is a Republican in politics, and served one year as road supervisor. February 5, 1887, Mr. Harshbarger was united in marriage with Effie Carey, a daughter of Stewart Carey, of Newton Township, and they have two sons, Ira and Alonzo. Religiously they are members of the Christian Church of Pleasant Hill.

WILLIAM J. McKNIGHT, owner of eighty-six acres of valuable land in Miami County, Ohio, located about five miles northeast of Piqua, has been living on his present farm since 1872 and is well known in that vicinity. He was born in Shelby County, Ohio, August 18, 1837, and is a son of Joseph and Mary (Wiley) McKnight, and a grandson of Samuel McKnight, who came from Ireland to the United States and settled in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. The maternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch was William Wiley, who was a native of

County Firmanagh, Ireland, and came to Miami County, Ohio, from Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, where he had lived some years. Joseph McKnight moved from Shelby County, Ohio, to Miami County, in 1867, and settled on a farm in Spring Creek Township, where he lived until his death.

William J. McKnight received his educational training in the public schools of Shelby County, and after leaving school helped in farming the home place. After a time he moved to Miami County, where he remained a couple of years, then returned to Shelby County, where he lived until 1872. He again returned to Miami County in that year and purchased his present farm of eighty-six acres in Spring Creek Township. He followed general farming until recent years, but is now living practically in retirement, renting his farm out by fields.

Mr. McKnight was first married to Elizabeth N. Bull, who died in 1869, and they had three sons: Joseph T., who married Mattie Whitlock and lives in Chicago; William R., who married Anna Hutchinson and lives in Columbus, Ohio; and Edwin E., who first married a Mrs. Bradford, and second Miss Anna Dover. William J. McKnight formed a second marital union with Miss Mary Morrow, a daughter of James Morrow, of Shelby County, and they became parents of three daughters: Leota, who lives at home; Minnie, wife of Ward Simmons; and Mary Lilly, who also lives with her parents. Politically he is a Prohibitionist, and has served as road supervisor. He is a member of the United Presbyterian Church and formerly served as one of its trustees. He is a progressive citizen and is held in high esteem by his many acquaintances.

S. G. McKNIGHT, a prosperous farmer, of Spring Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, owns and resides upon a splendid farm of eighty acres, and is also owner of another tract of 160 acres, lying about a fourth of a mile east of his home. He was born in Orange Township, Shelby County, Ohio, September 29, 1848, and is a son of Joseph and Mary (Wiley) McKnight, and a grandson of Samuel McKnight, who came to this country from County Down, Ireland.

Joseph McKnight was reared and educated in Pennsylvania, and was young at the time of his father's death. After marriage he rented what is known as the Miller farm in Miami County, Ohio, and worked it one year and then went to Shelby County, Ohio, and settled on 160 acres which he secured from the Government. In October, 1867, he moved back to Miami County to take care of his brother John, who owned the eighty-acre farm which now belongs to the subject of this sketch in Spring Creek Township. At the time of his death, February 9, 1875, he still retained 120 acres of the farm in Shelby County which he had purchased from the Government. He married Mary Wiley, a daughter of William and Mary Wiley, who came to this country from County Firmanagh, Ireland, and settled in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, where Mrs. McKnight was born. They later moved to near Piqua, Ohio. Seven children were the issue of this union, as follows: One who died in infancy; Sarah Jane, who lives with her brother, S. G. McKnight, and is the widow of D. K. Gillespie; W. J., who lives four miles southeast of the subject of this record; Mary Ann, who died at the age of twelve years; Margaret B., deceased wife of Joseph Wead, of Shelby County, the year of her death being 1892; Maria L., who died in 1892; and S. G.

S. G. McKnight attended the district schools in Shelby County, after which he enrolled at the State Normal School at Lebanon, Ohio. Upon leaving school he taught one term and then assisted his father in the work on the home farm. Since coming to Miami County he has always resided in Spring Creek Township, where he is widely known. He bought his home farm of the Foreign Board of Missions of the Presbyterian Church, and the 160 acres included in the other farm he purchased from his uncle's estate. Politically Mr. McKnight is a Prohibitionist, and was at one time township supervisor. He is a member of the local Grange, Patrons of Husbandry. Religiously he is a member of the United Presbyterian Church.

J. C. SUBER, who is engaged in the furniture and undertaking business at Fletcher, has been interested in this line for a longer period than any other dealer in Brown Township, and controls the larger part of the trade in this section of Miami County. Mr. Suber was born in Brown Township, Miami County, Ohio, on a farm six miles northeast of Fletcher, November 19, 1858, and is a son of William D. and Mary A. (Caven) Suber.

William D. Suber was born in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and was brought to Miami County when four years of age. He grew to manhood in Brown Township and acquired the farm which his widow still owns. He died on that place in February, 1889. He married Mary A. Caven, a daughter of J. and Arsinath Caven, residents of Spring Creek Township, and they had five children, namely: J. C., Ora, George, and two who died in infancy.

J. C. Suber attended the Lena and Conover schools during six years of boyhood, and then took up hard work on the home farm and remained with his father until his marriage. In 1880 he rented a farm for himself and continued to reside in Miami County until he came to Fletcher, with the exception of a period of eighteen months, when he lived in Champaign County. Mr. Suber began business here in a modest way, starting in one room, the dimensions of which were 13x45 feet. He very soon found it necessary to increase his facilities and gradually to still further increase them until he now occupies the largest concrete block building in the county. This modern building he erected in 1908, taking possession in August of that year. Its dimensions are 32½x50 feet, with cellar underneath and three stories in height. He also utilizes a frame two-story building with dimensions of 33x45 feet, with cellar. He carries a full line of household furniture and he gives special attention to undertaking, having every equipment for the business, including caskets, car and ambulance. Mr. Suber received his license as an embalmer from the Board of Embalmers of Toledo in 1905. In addition to his other lines, he has dealt also in coal and cement for some fifteen years. He is one of the representative business men of this section.

In 1879 Mr. Suber was married to Miss Sarah P. Carmony, who died May 16, 1896. Two children were born, one of whom died in infancy, a daughter, Bertha, surviving. Mr. Suber was married (second) October 25, 1898, to Miss Margaret Thompson, who died May 10, 1906, survived by one son, William. Mr. Suber's third marriage was on July 31, 1907, to Mrs. Ella Robison. Since he was fourteen years of age Mr. Suber has been a member of the Presbyterian Church and has lived consistently with his profession, since 1883 being one of the elders. In politics Mr. Suber is a Democrat and has served several years as clerk of Brown Township. In 1884 he identified himself with the Odd Fellows, and in 1887 with the Knights of Pythias, being a charter member of the latter lodge at Fletcher.

GEORGE S. APPLE, owner of two fine farms in Newberry Township, Miami County, one of sixty-seven acres, on which he lives, and the other containing 105 acres, situated one-quarter mile west, both being in Section 11 and about four and one-half miles northwest of Covington, is one of the substantial and representative men of this township. He was born September 27, 1857, on a farm in Darke County, Ohio, and is a son of Solomon and Eve (Gephart) Apple.

The Apple family was established in Montgomery County, Ohio, by the great-grandfather, Henry Apple, who came from Pennsylvania at a very early date. At that time the grandfather, also Henry Apple, was a child. He spent his life in Montgomery County, and there his son, Solomon Apple, was born and lived until after his marriage to Eve Gebhart. She was reared in the same vicinity. About one year after marriage they moved to Darke County, where they lived for twelve years, and then came to Newberry Township, Miami County, settling on the farm now jointly owned by the mother and youngest brother of George S. Apple, in March, 1865. Solomon Apple died March 28, 1900, aged seventy years.

George S. Apple was about eight years old when his parents brought him to Newberry Township, and he has continued to live here ever since. His life has been devoted to agricultural pursuits. Just after he married he settled on his farm of 105 acres, which he cultivated and lived on until July 31, 1907, when he moved to his smaller farm. In that summer he built his present fine frame residence and made many other substantial improvements.

On September 25, 1881, Mr. Apple was married to Miss Amanda Johnson, who was born in Champaign County, Ohio, a daughter of Wilson and Nancy (De Camp) Johnson. Her father was a farmer and died on his farm in Champaign County when she was young, her mother having died when she was only seven years of age. When twelve years old she came to Newberry Township and lived with her sister, Mrs. Hester Hartle, until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Apple have two children: Perry, who lives on his father's larger farm, married Maud Ollinger; and Bertha, who remains at home with her parents. Mr. Apple and family belong to the Lutheran Church.

JACOB REIBER, notary public and newspaper correspondent, residing at Pleasant Hill, has acceptably filled a number of the public offices in this section, and is an honored veteran of the Civil War and a member of the Dan W. Williams Post No. 369, G. A. R., at Pleasant Hill. Mr. Reiber was born in Perry County, Pennsylvania, September 1, 1836, and is a son of John and Mary (Fenical) Reiber.

John Reiber was born May 26, 1811, in Perry County, Pennsylvania, and in April, 1837, came to Newton Township, Miami County, where he worked at the blacksmith trade until 1849, after which he engaged in farming until the time of his death, April 18, 1872. His place of burial was the Pleasant Hill Cemetery. He was married (first) to Mary Fenical, June 4, 1835, a daughter of John and Susan Fenical, and there were four sons and three daughters born to this union, namely: Jacob, the only survivor; and Peter, William F., Joseph, Susanna, Margaret I. and Sarah J. The mother of these children died February 23, 1865, and her burial was in the Sugar Grove Cemetery. John Reiber was married (second) to Sarah Katherine Cathron, a daughter of George and Julia Inman. She died in 1889, without issue. For thirty-five years John Reiber was a deacon in the Christian Church.

Jacob Reiber went to school in boyhood in Newton Township and then worked on the home farm until his marriage, in 1857, after which he settled on another farm in the same township, which he operated until he entered the army for service in the terrible Civil War. Mr. Reiber enlisted in 1863 in Company G, 110th Regt., O. Vol. Inf., in which he remained until he was honorably discharged in 1865. As evidence of the hard service he saw, Mr. Reiber has proofs on his own person. On May 5, 1864, when so many brave men fell at the battle of the Wilderness, five bullets left their cruel marks, four of these producing wounds which not only caused him months of intense suffering, but left him with a disabled foot. Honorable as these injuries may be, gained as they were in loyal defense of his country, they were no less hard to endure, and make a claim on the sympathy and gratitude of his fellow citizens which should never be forgotten.

Upon his return home, Mr. Reiber was no longer physically able to engage in agricultural pursuits as formerly, and as his fellow citizens recognized this, they sought to find some mode of life for him in which, in his crippled condition, he could take his place in the world and in a measure enjoy the peace that he had fought and suffered to establish. He was appointed to fill out the latter part of the term of the first mayor of the town, a duty he efficiently performed, and then was twice elected township clerk, and in 1878 was made postmaster at Pleasant Hill. This office he filled acceptably for six years. For the past twenty-seven years he has been a notary public, and has also been the local correspondent for a number of newspapers. Although debarred from much that would have been pleasant and profitable to him, Mr. Reiber has led a most useful and exemplary life, and no one in Pleasant Hill is held in higher esteem.

On August 27, 1857, Mr. Reiber was married to Miss Maria C. Williams, who died September 24, 1905, and was laid to rest in the Pleasant Hill Cemetery. The five children born to this marriage were: William, who died May 6, 1864; Rosella J., who lives with her father; Arthur L., who is deceased; J. Warren, who lives in North Carolina; and Charles C., who resides at Marion, Indiana. He married Kittie E. Brandon, who is a daughter of Samuel H. Brandon, and they have one daughter, Treva Irene, Mr. Reiber's only grandchild.

In his political sentiments he is a stanch Republican, following in the footsteps of his father, and has never swerved in his allegiance. When seventeen years of age he united with the Christian Church, and has remained a consistent member of this religious body.

CLOYD SMITH, a well known citizen of Piqua and county clerk-elect of Miami County, was born in Shelby County, Ohio, in 1872, and is a son of the late Dr. S. D. Smith.

Dr. S. D. Smith came to Piqua with his family in 1881, and was continuously engaged in the practice of medicine in this city until his death, in 1898. He had two sons, Ernest A. and Cloyd. The former is a graduate of the Ohio Wesleyan University and a Ph. D. of Johns Hopkins University of Baltimore. He completed his studies at Oxford, England, and in Paris, and is an author of some note. He is a member of the faculty of Allegheny College, filling the chair of history and economics.

Cloyd Smith was nine years old when his parents came to Piqua, and he was educated in the city schools. He first entered the local office of the Pennsylvania Railroad, where he had four years of business training, after which he entered the employ of the Favorite Stove and Range Company, being first in the office and later on the road, terminating a business connection of ten years' duration in 1906. Mr. Smith has been an active citizen, and in November, 1908, his party elected him county clerk, giving him a fine majority. Mr. Smith has a wide acquaintance, and possesses all the qualifications that will enable him to give acceptable service in this position. In 1900 Mr. Smith was married to Miss Henrietta Brandriff, of Piqua, and they have two children, Augusta and Martha. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are members of the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church, at Piqua.

SAMUEL YERTY, who resides on his well improved farm of twenty-eight acres, situated in Newberry Township, on the Stillwater turnpike road, about four miles northwest of Covington, owns a second farm, also located in section 12, which lies about one-quarter mile north, and is bordered by the Range Line road. Mr. Yerty was born February 26, 1835, in Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Jacob and Polly (Ullery) Yerty.

Jacob Yerty was born in Pennsylvania, and there attended school and was trained as a farmer, not coming to Miami County until after his marriage. He subsequently became the owner of a quarter section of land in Newberry Township, and lived here until his death. He was thrice married, his first wife being Polly Ullery, who died when her son Samuel was nine years of age. She was a half sister of Col. Ullery, formerly county commissioner of Miami County. To this marriage were born four sons and two daughters, and there are three surviving sons: Jacob and Daniel, twins, who were born October 12, 1825, of whom Jacob is deceased and Daniel resides with his brother Samuel; and David and Samuel, who are twins. Jacob Yerty and his second wife, Esther, lived for many years in Newberry Township.

Samuel Yerty went to school in the neighborhood of his home, in his boyhood, later learned the carpenter trade, and has worked at that and at farming all his life.

After his marriage, in 1859, he and wife went to housekeeping on a farm of 100 acres in Shelby County, Ohio, which they then owned, but sold, and in 1865 he bought his eighty-acre farm in Newberry Township, and put up substantial buildings there. He continued to live on that farm until 1890, when he came to his present place, where he has put all the buildings in fine shape, and has a valuable property and comfortable and attractive home.

On April 3, 1859, Mr. Yerty was married to Miss Savilla Routson, a daughter of George Routson and a sister of Reuben Routson. To this marriage were born three children, namely: Miranda, who married William Keiser, who resides on and operates the eighty-acre farm, has two children—Otto and Leo; Charles, who married Lydia Fink, resides south of Bradford and they have two children—Ruth and Mary; and Dolly, who is the wife of George W. Kester, a resident of Marion, Indiana.

JOHN F. CAVEN, whose magnificent farm of 456 acres lies just one mile northwest of Fletcher, in Brown Township, Miami County, Ohio, was born on a farm just across the highway from his own property, in 1855, and is a son of George B. and Catherine (Simmons) Caven.

The grandfather, John A. Caven, came to Brown Township as a pioneer, and he cleared off the land, eighty acres of which has never since been out of the possession of the family, and he built the log house which stood on the place for many years, and was the birthplace of his son, George B. The grandfather died on this farm.

George B. Caven grew to manhood in Brown Township, inherited a large part of the family estate, and erected the present comfortable farm dwelling and other buildings, and at the time of his death he owned 430 acres of land. He lived on the farm until within a short time of his demise, which occurred after he had retired to Fletcher. He was a Democrat in his political opinions, and acceptably served in numerous township offices, for twenty-one consecutive years, being a trustee of Brown Township. He lived into honored old age, dying February 9, 1909, within six weeks of his eighty-first birthday. He married Catherine Simmons, a daughter of Peter Simmons, and they had five children born to them, as follows: Alice A., who is the wife of Willis Hill; John F.; Jane, deceased, who was the wife of R. C. Morrow; Mary E., who is the wife of George W. Sanders, of Fletcher; and Ruth, who is now deceased.

John F. Caven secured his education in the schools of Brown Township and of Piqua, after which he remained on the home farm for over a quarter of a century. In 1902 he came to his own property, where for several years he has done nothing more than oversee the large agricultural operations he has carried on, residing in a very fine modern residence which he erected, with other structures, about the time he came here. Mr. Caven is numbered with the township's representative and substantial men. He has taken a hearty interest in public matters ever since attaining his majority, and as his landed interests have been so large, his judgment has been very often consulted concerning township improvements and like affairs. Following his father's example, he has been a stanch Democrat, and on that ticket has been elected township trustee for the past eleven years, has served usefully on the

F. C. GOODRICH

School Board, and has filled other township offices.

Mr. Caven was married (first) to Florence Berryhill, and they had two children: Maud, who is the wife of R. O. Brown; and Carrie J., who married Charles Wiles, and lives in Shelby County. Mr. Caven was married (second) to Nellie B. Moore, who is a daughter of J. B. Moore, a retired farmer living at Piqua, and they have two children: Herbert Milton and Martha Blanche. Mr. and Mrs. Caven are members of the Presbyterian Church at Fletcher. He is identified with the Odd Fellows.

I. C. KISER, M. D., who is engaged in the practice of medicine at Fletcher, and is a representative citizen of the place, is a member of one of the oldest settled families in Brown Township. Dr. Kiser was born in 1873, in Brown Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Benjamin and a grandson of Isaac Kiser.

Isaac Kiser was the first white child born in Brown Township, and the whole of his long and useful life was spent here, which was prolonged to eighty-seven years. He was a man of prominence in this section, a leader in all public movements, the owner of 600 acres of land, and one of the township's capitalists. For many years he was justice of the peace, dividing honors with the late Justice Duncan, and together they handled all the early litigation.

Benjamin Kiser, father of Dr. Kiser, was reared on his father's farm in Brown Township, and the larger part of his life was devoted to agricultural pursuits. During the Civil War he served honorably as a member of Company C, Seventy-first Regt., O. Vol. Inf. He married Mary A. Hetzler, and they had four children, namely: Elmer, who is engaged in the meat business at Sidney, Ohio; Minnie, who is married and resides in Miami County; I. C., of Fletcher; and Foster, who is a student of medicine.

Dr. I. C. Kiser was reared on the old homestead in Brown Township, and from the country schools entered the Ohio Normal University at Ada, where he completed a literary course and also graduated in pharmacy, and then entered the Ohio Medical University of Columbus, where he received his degree in 1897. Dr. Kiser immediately located at Fletcher, fitting up a convenient office on Main Street, and has built up a very satisfactory practice. He keeps fully abreast of the times, and makes use of the scientific methods which modern investigation have made possible and advisable.

Dr. Kiser was married to Miss Rose Saunders. In his political views he is a Democrat. Fraternally he is identified with the Masons, the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias, and for the past eight years has been treasurer of the latter organization at Fletcher.

F. C. GOODRICH, who has been a resident of Troy for a period of twenty-five years, is engaged in the practice of law. He was born at Sharon, in Noble County, Ohio, July 25, 1874, and was nine years of age when his parents moved to Troy. His father, P. J. Goodrich, entered the real estate and insurance business in this city, and also was made grand master of records of the Knights of the Golden Eagle.

F. C. Goodrich attended the common schools at Sharon and Troy, and afterward the Troy High School, of which he is a graduate. He took the degree of A. M. at Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio, in 1898, after which he took up the study of law. He studied in the offices of Judge H. H. Williams and Robert J. Smith, at Troy, and was admitted to the bar in December, 1900. He spent six months on the Western Coast, after which, in February, 1902, he opened his office for practice in Troy. In May following, he was appointed by Mayor J. O. Davis as city solicitor, and was twice elected to that office, first in 1903, and again in 1905, discharging its duties with marked ability for six years. He practices in all the courts of the State and enjoys high standing in the profession.

In June, 1903, Mr. Goodrich was married to Miss Eva M. Elder, who was born and reared in Troy, and for five years was deputy clerk of Miami County. They have two children, Stanley Webb and Lucy. Mr. Goodrich is a member of the First M. E. Church. Mrs. Goodrich and the rest of the family belong to the First Baptist. Mr. Goodrich is a member and past officer of the following orders: Troy Lodge, No. 43, I. O. O. F.; Concord Encampment, No. 23, I. O. O. F.; Troy Lodge, No. 833, B. P. O. E.; Trojan Lodge, No. 110, K. P.; Concord Castle, No. 43, K. G. E.; and Camp No. 5381, M .W. A.; and Troy Council No. 191, Jr. O. U. A. M. He is representative to the Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F.

URIAH S. APPLE, one of Newberry Township's substantial and representative citizens, resides on a farm of 162 acres, which he owns in partnership with his mother, which is situated in Section 1, about four and one-half miles northwest of Covington, was born on this farm December 14, 1875, and is a son of Solomon and Eve (Gebhart) Apple.

Solomon Apple was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, on the old Apple homestead, which is situated one mile north of Farmersville. That land was entered from the Government by Henry Apple when he came to Ohio from Pennsylvania. He was the great-grandfather of Uriah S., and when he settled there his son, also Henry Apple, the grandfather of Uriah S., was two years old. Both the older and younger Henry Apple lived and died on that farm, and there Solomon Apple grew to manhood. He married Eve Gebhart, a daughter of George and Margaret (Weaver) Gebhart. Mrs. Apple was born and reared on a farm two miles east of Farmersville, Montgomery County. After marriage they lived for a year and a half in Montgomery County, and then moved to a farm in Darke County, on which they resided for twelve years and then sold. They then came to the present farm in Newberry Township, Miami County, but at that time it did not present the fine appearance that it does now. Mr. Apple began improvements, and in 1873 put up the present fine residence. During all his active years he carried on agricultural pusuits and was a careful and successful farmer. He died here March 28, 1900, when aged seventy years. He was a valued member of the Lutheran Church. The children born to Solomon Apple and his wife were: Margaret, who is the wife of Thomas E. Routson; George S., who is a farmer in Newberry Township; Henry D., who is also a farmer in this township; Catherine and an infant are deceased, the former dying at the age of twelve years; Sarah, who is the wife of David J. Routson; Amanda, who is the wife of Charles D. Rhoades; and Uriah S.

Uriah S. Apple has always lived on the home farm, and has never engaged in any line of business except farming. He was educated in the public schools, and is one of the township's intelligent and well informed men. He is a stockholder in the Stillwater Valley Bank. Mr. Apple married Miss Sevilla Routson, a daughter of Reuben Routson and a sister of George W. and D. J. Routson, representative citizens of this part of Miami County. Mr. and Mrs. Apple have had four children, the two survivors being Etoile and Neva. Leonard died when aged one year and one month, and the second born died in infancy. Mr. Apple and wife are members of the Lutheran Church.

JOHN M. CAVEN, a representative of one of the oldest families of Miami County, resides on his valuable farm of 120 acres, which is situated about five miles east of Piqua. He was born on this farm in Spring Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, December 9, 1848, and is a son of John and Casenath (Ross) Caven.

The founder of the Caven family in Miami County was the grandfather, George M. Caven, who came from Rockingham County, Virginia, and settled in Spring Creek Township, and the southern part of the tract that he secured over 100 years ago has never been out of the Caven name. This heritage has proven a rich one, and each successive Caven has increased the value of it. The present owner of all but forty acres of the original farm prizes very highly the early documents concerning it, and has in his possession the old land warrant and the tax receipts bearing the date of 1811. The name of George M. Caven appears in the early county records of this section, proving that he was a man of considerable importance in his day. His death occurred on this farm when he was in advanced age. Here his son, John Caven, was born and died. He married Casenath Ross, a daughter of one of the old settlers, and they had the following children born to them: G. Ross, Mary Ann, Sally, Margaret, John M. and Tensie, all of whom survive.

John M. Caven obtained his education in the common schools near his home, and all his interests have been centered in this section. In addition to farming he has developed a maple sugar industry, having a maple camp of 150 trees, which produce sap abundantly. Mr. Caven manufactures his sugar in the old way, one that ensures its purity, and he finds ready sale for all he can produce. The location of his farm is a very favorable one, and his land would bring as high a price, if offered for sale, as any in this section of Miami County. He has never married. In his political attachment he is a Republican. He is numbered with the township's substantial and representative men.

JACOB MUSSELMAN, township trustee of Newton Township, and a stockholder in the Pleasant Hill Banking Company and the Stillwater Bank of Covington, now lives retired on his excellent farm of eighty acres, which is situated in Section 22, Range 5, near the Troy and Pleasant Hill Turnpike Road. He was born in Washington Township, Montgomery County, Ohio, December 3, 1852, and is a son of John and Sarah (Smith) Musselman.

John Musselman was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and came from there to Ohio in early manhood. He settled nine miles south of Dayton, in Montgomery County, and from there came to Miami County in 1871, buying a farm of 142 acres on the Troy and Covington Turnpike, of the Williams heirs. He cleared a part of this farm and repaired the buildings and did a large amount of draining, putting his land in good condition, and with other products, grew about four acres of tobacco a year. He was a large, robust man, weighing about 250 pounds, and for years prior to his death had been more of less afflicted with heart trouble. His death occurred December 21, 1907, and his burial was in the Covington Cemetery. He was a member of the German Reformed Church. In Montgomery County he married Sarah Smith, a daughter of Philip Smith, and they had five children: Jacob, Eliza Ann, Ellen, Emma Idella, and John F. Of these, Ellen is deceased. The mother of these children still resides on the old homestead.

Jacob Musselman attended school near Woodburn, in Montgomery County. He helped his father after coming to Miami County and remained at home for about seven years after his own marriage. He then came to his present farm, erecting a new house, a number of other buildings, including tobacco and cattle sheds, and repaired the barn, putting everything into fine condition. He cleared about six acres of the place, and now and then has done a little draining, but his land has required a very small amount of special attention. Mr. Musselman now lives retired, having turned the active operation of the farm over to his capable son-in-law.

Mr. Musselman was married January 25, 1877, to Miss Missouri F. Whitman, a daughter of Edward and Mary Whitman, and they have one daughter, Emma Idella, who married Mack Hawn. Mr. and Mrs. Hawn have two sons, Ralph E. and Paul M. Although no longer actively working his farm, Mr. Musselman finds plenty of occupation. His fellow citizens have frequently elected him to township offices, and he gives close and careful attention to his official duties. Since 1908 he has been a trustee of the township, and formerly served with the greatest efficiency as superintendent of the turnpike. A long life spent mainly in the open air, has given him health and vigor, and Mr. Musselman could easily pass for a man many years younger than the age he acknowledges.

PROF. JESSE BEERY, whose skill and reputation as a horse breaker and trainer is recognized all over this and many other counties, and whose *School of Correspondence in Horsemanship,* together with a number of appliances of his own invention, have made his name familiar all over the United States, was born June 13, 1861, at Pleasant Hill, Miami County, Ohio. His parents were Enoch and Mary (Hatfield) Beery, and his maternal grandparents were George and Mary (Kneighley) Hatfield.

The father of Prof. Beery was a substantial farmer and resided on a farm east of Pleasant Hill, where he died in 1905, at the age of eighty-two years, and his burial was in the Pleasant Hill Cemetery. His wife had passed away in 1868, and she was laid to rest in the Sugar Grove Cemetery. They had six children: Minnie, Lelene, Levi, Cassie, Jesse and Martha. Enoch Beery was a deacon in the German Baptist Church for fifty years.

Jesse Beery attended school at Pleasant Hill and Covington. He assisted his father on the home farm, but from boyhood took a greater amount of interest in the horses on the place than in the work of cultivating the land, seeming to have a natural gift for controlling animals. This gift he recognized, and by exercising it, increased his power, and when little more than a boy, commenced to travel, exhibiting his powers as a trainer at fairs and expositions all over the country. For sixteen years he was on the road, visiting cities, towns and private grounds, and at all these places he found people who not only acknowledged and admired his remarkable powers, but were anxious to learn his methods, and it was about 1905 when he had more business than he could handle, wherever he went, that he decided to return to Pleasant Hill and found a school to teach others the art which came to him naturally. His course of instruction covers every point of this great subject, and he has satisfied students all over the country. In fact, Professor Beery is one of the few men who have presented the art and science of horse training to pupils in a practical manner, and this superiority has been recognized.

Not only has Professor Beery given men and women the opportunity of learning how to train, rear and manage their own horses, but he has invented a number of appliances which he makes use of himself and offers to the public, at most reasonable rates, which are almost a necessity for perfect success in controlling the spirited animals and desirable to use with the most gentle. These appliances have cost Professor Beery much capital and years of experimenting, but they have reached perfection, and as they are protected by patents, they can only be procured from him. Among these may be mentioned: The surcingle, the knee pads, the foot straps, the safety rope, the throwing halter, the double backband and crupper, the guy line and throwing strap, the free shaft carriers, the bellyband, the breeching and hip straps, all of these being arranged in groups numbered Nos. 1, 2 and 3, at prices most reasonable, while the whole set of appliances can be procured together for the very small sum of eighteen dollars. In addition to the appliances mentioned, several others have later been put on the market, which have met with ready sale, being recognized as almost indispensable to those who desire perfect safety with horses and at the same time do not wish to cause discomfort to spirited animals. These are the Four-in-one Beery Bit and the Pulley Breaking Bridle. Should Prof. Beery preserve all the letters he receives in praise of his inventions and system of teaching, he would be compelled to erect a warehouse to contain them. He is president of the Jesse Beery Company, of Pleasant Hill, a co-operative organization, the other officers of which are: A. J. Lanver, of Detroit, Michigan, vice-president; Charles F. Perkins, treasurer; C. Roy Coppock, secretary, and Prof. S. C. Morton. He is also president of the Dayton Agency Supply Company, of Dayton, in which he is a stockholder, and also owns stock in the Pleasant Hill Banking Company.

On December 25, 1889, Prof. Beery was married to Miss Meda Coppock, daughter of Hon. D. M. Coppock, mayor of Pleasant Hill, and they have four children, Ray, Ruth, Beecher and Lura. The two older children are students in the Pleasant Hill High School, Miss Ruth also having her musical talent developed. Prof. Beery is a deacon in the Pleasant Hill Christian Church. In politics he is a Republican and he has served in the Town Council and on the School Board.

CHARLES MORTON, who conducts a prosperous business at Fletcher in the farm implement line, owns a valuable farm of 108 acres, on which he resides, in Brown Township. He was born January 10, 1862, in Lost Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Samuel and Hannah N. (Bowne) Morton. The late Samuel Morton, whose sudden death from heart trouble occurred in 1897, was one of Miami County's most respected citizens. He was born in New Jersey, and came to this part of the country in his youth and spent his entire life here. He married Hannah N. Bowne, and they had three children—Ellen, William and Charles, the latter being the only survivor.

Charles Morton was educated in the public schools of Lost Creek Township and was a very apt pupil, graduating when sixteen years of age. He then became his father's helper on the home farm and lived there until his own marriage, when he purchased his present farm and in addition to cultivating it, carries on an excellent business in all kinds of farm implements. In 1886 Mr. Morton was married to Miss Irene Boyd, a daughter of J. A. Boyd, and they have three children, Eva Jane, William Edson and Hannah M. Mr. Morton takes a good citizen's interest in public matters, but he has never consented to accept township office, although particularly well qualified for the same. He casts his vote with the Republican party. Fraternally he belongs to the Masons and the Knights of Pythias.

THOMAS M. LOUGHMAN, a representative farmer of Spring Creek Township, residing on a well improved farm of thirty-nine acres, located about four and a half miles east of Piqua, was born January 28, 1836, on a farm in Brown Township, near Fletcher, Ohio, and is a son of Henry and Ruth (Martin) Loughman.

Henry Loughman was a native of Virginia, where he was reared and educated, later moving to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he engaged for a time in teaming, after which he moved to Miami County, and here purchased a tract of land one and a half miles south of Fletcher. Here he engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death, due to accident, caused by a team of runaway horses. He married Ruth Martin, a native of Kentucky, and to them was born one son, Thomas M., the subject of this sketch. Mrs. Loughman subsequently married a Mr. Byers, by whom she became the mother of six children.

Thomas M. Loughman spent his boyhood days on his father's farm in Brown Township and attended the local schools, after which, when about fourteen years old, he began learning the carpenter's trade, at which he worked for a number of years, building the first house in Conover, and the first balloon frame in Fletcher. He later gave up carpentering, traded the home place for land in Iowa, and this he traded for his present farm of thirty-nine acres in Spring Creek Township. Here Mr. Loughman has since resided, and in 1865 entered the threshing business, which he followed for a period of thirty-eight years in connection with his farming interests. He is now living in retirement, in the enjoyment of a well-earned rest, after years of unceasing activity, the farm being under the management of his son. About 1895 Mr. Loughman suffered a considerable loss by fire, after which he erected all the present buildings on the farm, including the commodious frame residence.

Mr. Loughman was first united in marriage with Elizabeth Hetzler, after whose death he married Elizabeth Baltzell, a daughter of Christopher and Mary Ann Baltzell, farmers, of Mercer County, Ohio. Eight children were born of this second union: Mina Belle, married John Manson, of Tippecanoe, Ohio; Callie F., married John Brose, of Sidney, Ohio; Daniel, a resident and smoke inspector of Dayton, Ohio, married Susan Ridenour; Rose, married J. Meacham, of Piqua; Jennie, resides at home; Omer T., a resident of Fletcher, cultivates the home farm, and married Jennie Lane; Lula, married John Hance, of Louisville, Kentucky; and Bertha, who married M. Duer, lives three miles northeast of Fletcher.

Mr. Loughman and family attend the First Presbyterian Church. He is politically identified with the Democratic party; was for eight years township trustee and for the same period was a member of the Election Board. He is a member of the order of Odd Fellows.

JACOB CASSEL, a highly respected retired farmer, residing in a comfortable home at Bloomer, Miami County, was born in Concord Township, Miami County, Ohio, one and one-half miles west of Troy, November 18, 1840, and is a son of John and Lydia (Hittle) Cassel.

John Cassel was born in Pennsylvania, but he married in Ohio. He was a farmer, and during the boyhood of his son Jacob moved to Illinois and bought a farm in Schuyler County. He died there three years later, and in 1850 his widow returned to Ohio with her children, settling near Greenville, in Darke County, where she passed the remainder of her life.

A fatherless boy often has a youth filled with many hardships, and in this case Jacob Cassel was no exception. When thirteen years of age he was bound out to his half-brother, who was a farmer in Darke County, and Jacob worked there for seven years for the sum of $150. When his term of bondage was over he started out for himself and soon was independent, working for many different farmers all over the township and even in other counties. On March 5, 1861, he was married to Miss Hester Moist, who was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, where she lived until she was twelve years old. At that time her parents, Abram and Rachel (Ziegler) Moist, moved on a farm situated southwest of Covington, and later retired to Pleasant Hill, where his death took place some years later. Mr. and Mrs. Cassel have two children: Angeline and Charles. Angeline married Charles Hill, and they live in Washington Township, Miami County. They have two children: Edith and Sylvia. Charles is the overseer of 590 acres of farm land belonging to the Shaker settlement, east of Dayton. He married Martha Hile, now deceased, and their one daughter, Mabel, lives with her grandparents.

Formerly Mr. Cassel owned eighty acres of farm land on the separating line between Shelby and Miami Counties, on which he lived for twenty years. He sold that farm in February, 1898, and then retired to Bloomer, purchasing the place there formerly owned by his son-in-law. Subsequently Mr. Cassel bought thirty acres, located north of Bloomer, and this he retains. He and his wife are members of the Progressive Brethren Church, a branch of the Dunkard body.

MORGAN LEONARD, a retired farmer living on his valuable farm of fifty acres, which is situated in Section 13, Range 4, Newton Township, is one of the representative citizens of this section, having served in the most important township offices and for the last eight years been a member of the Board of Trustees. He is also an honored veteran of the Civil War. He was born March 30, 1845, in Juniata County, Pennsylvania, and is a son of Reuben and Elizabeth (Airgood) Leonard.

The parents of Mr. Leonard spent their lives in Pennsylvania. They had ten children: Thomas, Milo, Morgan, Elizabeth, Scott, John, Samuel, Alva, Jersey and Jane. Reuben Leonard and wife attended the Dunkard Church. He was a strong Republican and his son remembers that he frequently sent his boys out on election day to remind voters of their duty to come to the polls.

Morgan Leonard attended school at Oakland Mills, Juniata County, and then went into the railroad shops. He later went out on the road as a brakeman, became a fireman and later was an engineer and was serving in that capacity when he entered the army as a member of Company A, Eighth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry. He was in the service for eighteen months, and during this time was wounded seriously three times and was so incapacitated that he was obliged to retire from the service. It was a long time before he regained his health, and for three years he worked as a silversmith, with his father-in-law at Covington, where he continued to live after his marriage until he came to his present farm. Of this he cleared forty acres and drained 850 rods, putting down tile. He also put up all the substantial buildings and made all other improvements and carried on a general line of agricultural work until he retired. He is a leading Republican in this section and has taken an active part in public matters. For eight years he served as supervisor of Newton Township and has been a trustee for the same length of time. At times he has served in other capacities, always with good judgment and a fit recognition of responsibility. On one occasion he was kept away from home for six weeks while serving on a United States jury, at Cincinnati, and on several other times has served on the grand jury at Troy.

Mr. Leonard was married March 4, 1864, to Miss Matilda Varner, a daughter of Daniel G. and Mary Varner, and they have had eight children, namely: Daniel G., deceased; Reuben, who resides at home; Elizabeth, deceased; Alva, who married Jessie Hoffman; Belle, who married John Marshall, of Darke County, and has two children—Ray and Ira; Annie, who married Irwin Shell, and has one son, Harley; Irwin, who lives at home; and

Minnie, who is the wife of Silas Silvers. Mr. Leonard and family attend the Dunkard Church. He is a valued member of the Dan W. Williams Post, G. A. R., No. 369, at Pleasant Hill, of which he has been vice-commander for several years.

C. O. YOUNG, V. S., who conducts his veterinary hospital and boarding stables at No. 419 Caldwell Street, Piqua, is one of the leading men in his profession in this section of Miami County. Dr. Young was born in 1878, at Sidney, Ohio, and he was reared and educated in Shelby County. When sixteen years of age Dr. Young began to work in a drug store and during his three years in his first position he laid the foundation for his future professional career. He was connected with the wholesale drug business at Indianapolis, Indiana, for one year, going from Fletcher, Ohio, where he had been living, and then returning to the home farm for three years. He completed his knowledge of drugs during a subsequent period of five years in the business at Toledo, Ohio, and then prepared to make a practical use of it, and at the same time entered the Toronto Veterinary College, at Toronto, Canada, thereby entering into a profession for which he had a natural inclination from early youth. He was graduated in 1908, and on April 18th of that year located at Piqua. His hospital is scientifically fitted up and his success is assured, many of the owners of valuable horses and stock in this section gladly availing themselves of his knowledge and skill.

In August, 1898, Dr. Young was married to Miss Edith L. Rhodecker, of Sidney, and they have one daughter, Mayme V. Dr. and Mrs. Young attend the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is identified with the Knights of Pythias.

C. H. HAGEMAN, a representative citizen of Spring Creek Township, residing on a tract of thirty-five acres located about six miles southeast of Piqua, was born March 19, 1846, on a farm near Sharonville, Hamilton County, Ohio, and is a son of Christian and Eliza (McCollough) Hageman.

Christian Hageman was born and reared in Hamilton County, Ohio, where during his early life he worked at the blacksmith trade, but spent his later years engaged in agricultural pursuits. Although his entire life was practically spent in Hamilton County, his death occurred in Troy, Miami County. He was first united in marriage with Eliza McCollough, who was born in Hamilton County, where she died aged forty-six years. They were the parents of the following children: Henrietta, who resides in Butler County, Ohio; Melissa, deceased; C. H., the subject of this record; Levy, deceased; Mary, deceased; and Albert, who resides in Cincinnati, Ohio. His second marriage was with Deborah Hageman, of Warren, Ohio, and her death occurred in Miami County.

C. H. Hageman received his education in the local schools of Hamilton County, after which he worked out until he became of age, and then took up carpentering, at which he worked for a period of twenty-two years. He then conducted a bakery at Piqua for three years, and in 1894 located on his present farm, where he has since practically lived a retired life, but it is his intention to cultivate his farm this season.

Mr. Hageman was first joined in wedlock with Caroline Vance, and of their union was born one child, Francis, a resident of Lima, Ohio, who married Allie Craft and has three children, Charles, Ernest and Francis. Our subject's second marital union was with Helen Williams, of Dayton, and he subsequently married Laura Brandenburg, who was born in Miami County and is a daughter of Cornelius Brandenburg, who came to this county from Maryland, as did her mother also. Mr. Hageman is politically identified with the Democratic party; he was for three years a member of the School Board, and served for a time as supervisor. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church of Troy.

WILLIAM H. DRIVER, residing on his well-improved farm of eighty acres, situated on the Gettysburg turnpike road, in Newberry Township, two and one-half miles west of Covington and one and three-quarters miles east of Bradford, was born in York County, Pennsylvania, January 29, 1857. His parents were Moses and Angeline (Ginter) Driver.

In 1862 the parents of Mr. Driver came to Miami County and stopped first at Covington and soon after the father bought what was known as the Two-Mile House, a popular public house at one time. Although he owned this property, he never conducted it, but devoted himself to farming, owning some sixty-five acres of land. He lived for about a year at the Two-Mile House, then bought a farm on the Iddings turnpike road, which became the family home. After some years he moved with his wife to Covington, where he lived retired until his death, October 31, 1898. His widow then went to live with a daughter, Mrs. Mina Dunham, at Greenville, Ohio, and died there in August, 1905.

William H. Driver was reared to manhood in Newberry Township, being aged five and one-half years when his parents came here. For some fourteen years Mr. Driver engaged in a dairy business, but for the past seven years he has confined himself to general farming. For nine years after his marriage he operated his farm of eighty acres in Newton Township. It is a historic place, the old Dorman farm, east of Circle Hill, and Mr. Driver resided there for nine years, coming to his present place on April 9, 1891. The comfortable residence is a fine old brick mansion.

Mr. Driver was married September 13, 1877, to Miss Mary E. Dohner, who was born and reared in Union Township. Her parents were Moses and Anna Dohner. Mr. and Mrs. Driver have seven children, namely: Harry, who resides at Bradford, where he is employed as inspector of repairs for the Pan Handle Railroad, married Hattie Thompson, and they have two children—Lawson and Robert; Warren, who is employed in the Pan Handle shops at Bradford, married Mabel De Weese and they have one child, Grace; Moses, who resides in the Dominion of Canada, married Letha Enyart; Sylvia, who resides in Canada; Ella, who is a graduate of the Covington High School; Bertie, who like her sister, is a graduate of the High School; and Caris, who is still pursuing his studies in the Covington High School. Mr. Driver and family are members of the Brethren in Christ Church.

T. B. WHEELER, one of Troy's leading business men—vice-president of The Allen & Wheeler Company, extensive dealers in grain and leaf tobacco—has been a resident of this city for the past forty-three years. He was born in Massachusetts in 1836.

Mr. Wheeler obtained his education and secured his first business experience in his native state, from which he came to Troy in 1866, immediately entering into partnership with H. W. Allen in the flour and grain line, under the firm name of Allen & Wheeler. The firm dealt only in these commodities until 1892, when leaf tobacco became an additional product handled, one which has assumed great importance in the present business. In 1904 incorporation papers were taken out, and the business has since been conducted as The Allen & Wheeler Company, with H. W. Allen as president and T. B. Wheeler as vice-president.

In 1867 Mr. Wheeler was married to Miss Mary R. Smith, who is a step-daughter of H. W. Allen, and they have three children, namely: Leonard A., who is a member of The Allen & Wheeler Company; Lucia M., who is the wife of Dr. J. A. Hall, of Cincinnati, Ohio; and Ellen Dean, residing at home. Mr. Wheeler is a member of the Troy Club. While not particularly active in politics, he is recognized as a good citizen, one whose efforts have always been directed to promoting movements for the common good.

SAMUEL MURRAY, deceased, was once one of the prominent farmers of Newberry Township, and resided on a valuable property situated about one mile southeast of Covington, on the Troy turnpike road. He was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, and was a son of David and Elizabeth (Kimmel) Murray.

When Samuel Murray was about seven years of age his parents moved from Montgomery County to Miami County, and settled on a farm in Newberry Township, adjoining the one later owned by Samuel Murray, and which is now the home of his widow. From boyhood he was trained in habits of industry and thrift, and he grew to manhood with all the knowledge necessary to make him an excellent farmer. He married Mary Shellebarger in 1851, and she still survives, having reached her eighty-third birthday, having been born January 24, 1826, in Pennsylvania. She was five years old when her parents, Jacob and Hannah (Mohler) Shellebarger, brought her to Miami County. The Shellebargers settled on the farm on which Sebastian Holfinger now lives, and Jacob Shellebarger entered that land from the Government, cleared it up and erected there his log house. In that home Mrs. Murray grew to womanhood. After marriage, Samuel Murray and wife first went to housekeeping on a farm situated on the Piqua turnpike road, later removing from there to the farm on which Samuel Murray lived until the time of his death, which occurred on November 10, 1895, when he was aged sixty-seven years. He was a very industrious man; not only understood all kinds of agricultural labor, but he learned brickmaking, and made the brick that went into the construction of the present brick residence. Mr. Samuel Murray was a prominent man in the Dunkard Church, and was a minister for many years, and finally ordained as an elder.

There were eight children born to Samuel Murray and his wife, three of whom—Amelia, Martha and Hannah—died in infancy. The survivors are: Owen, who resides on a part of the home farm; Mrs. Catherine Cover, who lives in Modesta

County, California; Mrs. Emma Gibbon, whose home is in Artesia, California; Charles; and Mrs. Ella Colbert, who lives at Whittier, California.

Charles Murray, the younger son of the late Samuel Murray, was born on the present farm March 22, 1869, and he has always been a farmer. He was married (first) to Hettie Warner, who died without issue. He was married (second) to Lydia Beaver, who was born and reared in Shelby County, a daughter of Grant and Alice (Smith) Beaver. They have one son, Samuel Lester. This family belongs to the old order of Dunkard, or German Baptists. This religious body dates back to 1708, and was founded in the United States in 1723-4. In the passage of years divisions have come into the original order, but the Murrays are still faithful to the old tenets requiring simplicity of life and deportment.

ALVA E. DICK, one of Elizabeth Township's representative business men and active citizens, who is serving in his fourth year as township assessor, was born March 24, 1871, at Miami City, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Robert and Susan (Drury) Dick.

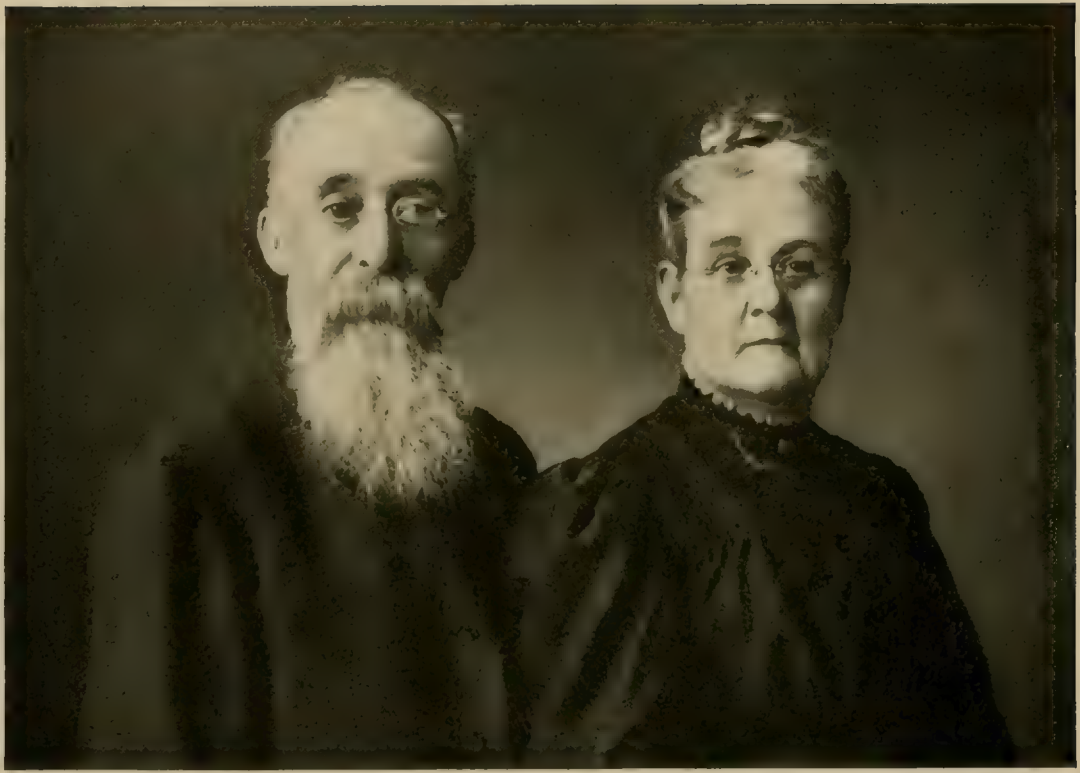
John Dick, the grandfather of Alva E., married and lived in Elizabeth Township, Miami County, for a number of years, and then purchased a farm of forty acres in Mercer County, Ohio, on which both he and wife subsequently died. They were worthy members of the Christian Church. They had seven children: John, Douglas Leroy, Marion, Arthur, Ferda, Robert, and an infant.

Robert Dick was born in Miami County, Ohio, October 11, 1846, and spent his whole life in his native county, passing a part of it at Miami City, where he died May 21, 1906. His main business was threshing, and this he followed with profit during the whole of his active life. He was a highly respected citizen of Elizabeth Township. He married Susan Drury, who was born October 11, 1846, and died December 16, 1903. She was a daughter of John and Annie (Pinkerton) Drury. The children of Robert Dick and wife were: James, who married Hattie Widener, daughter of William Widener, has two children, Hazel and Harry; Annie, who married George Staley, has had four children—Chalmer, Ava, Nellie and Ray, deceased; Alva; and Ethel, who married Adolphus Brown, has one child, Ruby.

Alva E. Dick obtained his education in a school conducted not far from Alcony, and after he left his books he began to give his father assistance and continued until the latter retired, when he assumed all the old threshing contracts and accepted new ones, and during the season is constantly employed in this industry. He learned paper-hanging, and when not engaged in threshing, keeps busy at his other business. He is an active Republican, and he belongs to the Odd Fellows, being connected with the lodge at Casstown.

HON. FRANK M. LONGNAKER, one of Pleasant Hill's most prominent citizens, who filled the mayor's chair for eight years and for eight years was postmaster, is identified with many of the important business concerns of this section. He was born at Pleasant Hill, Miami County, Ohio, May 8, 1869, and is a son of Ephraim and Eunice (Hill) Longnaker.

Ephraim Longnaker was born in Juniata County, Pennsylvania, and he came to Ohio in 1859. He enlisted for service in the



MR. AND MRS. JOHN JUDSON DRAKE

Civil War, early in the days of the Rebellion, and was a member of the Ninety-fourth Regiment, O. Vol. Inf., and was not mustered out until the close of hostilities sent the surviving soldiers back to their homes. At one time he was captured by the enemy, and was confined in Libby Prison. He is a highly respected resident of Pleasant Hill, where he has been employed as a carpenter, and also has conducted a boot and shoe store for a number of years. He is a Republican in politics, and one of the leading members of the Christian Church. He married Eunice Hill, a daughter of John W. Hill, and they have three children, Frank M., Jennie and Milton.

Frank M. Longnaker spent all his school days at Pleasant Hill, and after completing the high school course learned telegraphing. He was then employed for five years as agent and operator for the C. H. & D. Railroad, settling at Celina after his marriage and spending four years as agent there. He then became interested in the handling of sand and gravel, and in September, 1894, went into the business in Newton Township with Martin Himes, under the firm name of the Longnaker & Himes Company, of which is is president. After his long term as mayor terminated, he became manager of this company, and a large measure of his time is taken up in directing its affairs, the enterprise being one of considerable importance and giving employment to a large number of workmen. He is also a stockholder and a director in the Pleasant Hill Banking Company. In politics he is an ardent Republican. He has served one term as justice of the peace, and at present is president of the School Board.

Mr. Longnaker's business success has been phenomenal, and to his own industry, foresight and good judgment must a large part of it be attributed. When he went into business it was without one dollar of capital. With his partner he now owns a concrete manufacturing plant, and gives steady employment to twelve workmen, who handle from twenty-five to fifty cars of sand and gravel a day, shipments being made to all points on the C., H. & D. Railroad. Together with his other business interests, which have been acquired through the same channels of industry, Mr. Longnaker finds himself a very busy man, and in a fair way to become one of the most substantial men of this section.

On August 13, 1891, Mr. Longnaker was married to Miss Avis Ely, a daughter of George W. and Annie Ely, and they have one daughter, Miriam, who is a student in the Pleasant Hill High School. The family are members of the Christian Church at Pleasant Hill, Mr. Longnaker being one of the trustees. He is identified with the Masons, belonging to the Chapter at West Milton, and is also an Odd Fellow.

JOHN JUDSON DRAKE, residing on his fine farm of 145 acres, which is situated in Washington Township, Miami County, Ohio, about two miles southwest of Piqua, was born on this farm, October 30, 1841, and is a son of Jonathan and Frances (Curry) Drake.

The parents of Mr. Drake were born, reared and married in New Jersey. In 1831 they started over the mountains for Ohio, making the long journey by wagon and consuming six weeks on the way. They rested for a short time in Butler County, near Hamilton, and then came on into

Miami County. Daniel Drake, a brother of Jonathan, came to this county in 1833 and they bought the land together which is now a part of where John J. Drake now lives. They found but eight acres cleared and pioneer conditions prevailing. Home ties were not forgotten and five years after the Drakes settled they longed to have the dear old mother, Mrs. Eleanor Curry, who had remained in New Jersey. At that time there was no way for her to reach what was then almost the frontier, except by making the same journey over the mountains and recognizing this, Mr. Drake drove the team back to New Jersey and the wagon that had first transported the family, brought Mrs. Curry to her daughter. Four children were born to Jonathan Drake and wife, two sons and two daughters. The two oldest died when aged six years. The only survivor is John Judson. The one sister who grew to maturity, Mary Frances, is now deceased. She was the wife of Joseph Culbertson. Jonathan Drake died August 11, 1866, and his widow, November 8, 1868.

John Judson Drake has passed almost the whole of his life on his present farm. Following his marriage he settled on the farm belonging to his father, adjoining his own, and for two years cultivated his own land and his father's 100 acres. He then purchased that place, after the latter's death, but subsequently sold it. He engages in general farming to some extent, renting out the larger part of his land but reserving enough to make berry raising and trucking profitable, finding a ready market at Piqua.

On November 26, 1861, Mr. Drake married Miss Elma Irvin, who is a daughter of William and Adeline Irvin. She was born in Shelby County, Ohio, and lived there until she was six years old, when her parents moved on the farm in Washington Township, Miami County, which is owned by her brother, John Irvin. Mr. and Mrs. Drake have had six children, the survivors being: Addie Frances, who is the wife of James W. Curtis; Edgar Judson, residing at Coshocton, Ohio, who married Laura Holly, and has four children—Ernest, Irvin, Forrest and Myrle; and Earl Leroy who is engaged in the farm implement business at Piqua; he married Carrie Rees and they have two children—James Clinton and Robert Judson. The three children deceased were: Charles Oscar, who died when aged three months; Minnie Leola, who died aged three years; and Grace Inez, who passed away at the age of twenty-eight years. Mr. Drake and family are members of the Calvary Baptist Church at Piqua, of which he has been a trustee ever since it was organized, in 1871, and a deacon since 1881. He has been a member of the organization devoted to the interests of agriculturists, the Patrons of Husbandry, for a number of years. He is not an active politician but has always been numbered with the best and most reliable citizens of his township.

CHARLES HILLIARD THOMAS, a representative citizen of Spring Creek Township, and a lifelong resident of Miami County, residing on a fine farm of 168 acres located east of Piqua, was born on his present farm April 5, 1857, and is a son of David E. and Maria (Hilliard) Thomas.

David E. Thomas was born in Wales May 10, 1816, where he grew to maturity and became a Baptist minister. About

1854 he came to this country with his father, Eben Thomas, who was a medical practitioner, and who located in Licking County, Ohio, where he engaged in the practice of his profession until the time of his death. David E. Thomas resided for some years in Piqua, where he had charge of the Baptist Church during that time, and in 1852 located on the farm on which our subject was born and now resides, and four years later erected the present dwelling on the place. He was one of seven sons born to his parents, six of whom were ministers, one of whom, now in his eighty-ninth year, is a resident of Illinois. Rev. D. E. Thomas never operated the farm himself, but employed others to run the place, he continuing with his work in the ministry. He was united in marriage with Maria Hilliard, who was born July 31, 1821, on the old Hilliard farm, and died November 25, 1900. Her father, Charles Hilliard, was one of the earliest settlers of Miami County, locating in Spring Creek Township in 1776, on the land now owned by our subject. He always followed farming, and owned a section of land where East Piqua is now situated, and the house in which he lived is still standing, just south of our subject's home. There were six children born to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, namely: Sarah, who died young; Emma, deceased; Anna, deceased; Eva, who resides in Piqua; Ella, deceased; and Charles H., the subject of this record. David E. Thomas died in Spring Creek Township May 5, 1864.

Charles H. Thomas was reared on his present farm, and received his educational training in the schools of the district and at Piqua, since then operating the home farm, where he carries on general farming and stockraising. He is one of the most successful and progressive farmers of the township; is public spirited, and enjoys the esteem and confidence of his fellow citizens. Mr. Thomas married Ella Carr, a daughter of Millard and Sarah Carr, well known farmers residing east of Piqua. Mr. Thomas is politically identified with the Republican party; is fraternally a member of the I. O. O. F., and is an active member of the Baptist Church.

R. HAYES WIDENER comes of an old and respected family of Miami County, Ohio, and has been a resident of Troy for five years, being identified with the postoffice here. He was born in Elizabeth Township, Miami County, in 1876, and is a son of William D. Widener.

William D. Widener is well known to the people of the county, having been a lifelong resident of Miami County, Ohio. In his younger days he was a carpenter, and later engaged in farming operations with much success. He has always taken an active interest in political affairs, and was called upon to fill various township offices and also that of infirmary director. He served two terms in that office, and proved a most efficient public official. He now resides at the home of his son in the city of Troy.

R. Hayes Widener attended the public schools of the county, and his education was supplemented by a two-years course at Ohio Northern University, at Ada, Ohio. Upon leaving that institution he engaged in teaching school for seven years, and in 1904 he became a citizen of Troy. He at that time entered the postal service under Mr. W. M. Kyle, the postmaster, and has continued under the present postmaster,

E. A. Jackson. He is a prominent Odd Fellow, having been appointed Deputy Grand Master of this district for the term of 1908-1909.

In 1899 Mr. Widener was united in marriage with Miss Maud Miller, of Champaign County, Ohio, and they have three children: Maurice M., Amy I. and Marjorie E. The family attends the Christian Church.

FREDERICK W. JOHNSTON, owner of 140 acres of farm land located about three and a half miles north of Covington, has always been a resident of Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio, where he is well known and held in high esteem. He was born at Greenville Falls, in Newberry Township, October 4, 1849, and is a son of Andrew Jackson and Mary Ann (Thompson) Johnston, and a grandson of Frederick Johnston.

Frederick Johnston was a native of Ireland, and some time after his marriage emigrated to the United States. He settled between Enon and Yellow Springs, in Greene County, Ohio, and the farm is still in the family name, being owned by two of his daughters, who have never married.

Andrew Jackson Johnston was born on the ocean while his parents were en route from Ireland to this country, and was reared on the home farm in Greene County, Ohio. After his marriage he moved to Covington, where he conducted a tavern for a while, that establishment having previously been run by his wife's people. He was a cooper by trade, and also a wagon maker, and for a time operated a cooper shop at Greenville Falls, but farming was his principal occupation. About the year 1845 he purchased a farm about midway between Piqua and Covington, upon which he erected buildings and made other improvements, and moved on the farm in 1850, living there until 1864. In the fall of that year he purchased 160 acres where his son, Frederick W., now lives, and continued to live there and farm until his death in 1894. He was twice married, having by his first wife a daughter, Eliza, who died in Seattle, Washington. His second marriage was with Mary Ann Thompson, who was born and reared in Greene County, Ohio, to which her parents had come from the state of Maryland. Six children were the issue of this union, namely: James A., who lives in San Antonio, Texas; Louisa, deceased, who was a twin to James A. and who married William Drake; Frederick W.; John K., also of San Antonio, Texas; Edward, who lives at Covington; and Arthur, who died when young. The mother of this family died in 1900.

Frederick W. Johnston was less than a year old when his parents moved from Greenville Falls to the farm between Piqua and Covington, and was about sixteen when they moved to where he now lives. He received a common school education and has always engaged in agricultural pursuits. He has made many important improvements on the home place, and in 1904 erected a fine frame house, in which he lives. Mr. Johnston was united in marriage with Miss Sarah J. Meenach, a daughter of Ezekiel Meenach, and they have two children: Noel L., of Darke County, who married Minnie Lambert and has a daughter, Neva Arline; and Myrl C. Religiously they are members of the Covington Presbyterian Church, of which he is a deacon.

HON. DAVID M. COPPOCK, one of Miami County's most prominent citizens, mayor of Pleasant Hill, president of the Pleasant Hill Banking Company, president of the Miami County Mutual Insurance Company, and identified with many of the movements which have resulted in advancing the various interests of this section, was born December 29, 1841, in Union Township, Miami County, Ohio. His parents were Benjamin and Esther (Miles) Coppock.

Benjamin Coppock was a native of Miami County, where his life was spent in agricultural pursuits. He married Esther Miles, a daughter of William and Mary (Pearson) Miles, and they had three children: David M., Almeda and Elwood.

David M. Coppock obtained his education in the Union Township schools, but his success in life has not been dependent upon the knowledge there gained, a natural inheritance of foresight, ability and good judgment doing much more. He remained with his parents through early manhood, including one year after his marriage, and then moved to the vicinity of Pleasant Hill. where he lived until 1905, when he came to Pleasant Hill, purchasing here a residence. He still retains his valuable farm of 150 acres, which is situated in Newton Township.

Mr. Coppock was married (first) March 21, 1860, to Miss Jane Jay, who died January 17, 1879. She was a daughter of Joseph F. and Mary Jay. The following children were born to that marriage: Anabel, Horace, Lambert, Almeda, Furnas J., Lura, Bertha, Fred and Charles B. In August, 1880, Mayor Coppock was married (second) to Miss Rachel Overman, a daughter of Silas and Hannah Overman, of Marion, Indiana, and they have four children: Clarence, Herbert, Chester J. and Esther J.

Politically a Republican, Mayor Coppock has frequently been chosen by that organization in the township as standard-bearer, and prior to coming to Pleasant Hill served in local offices. As mayor of the town he has been a fearless official, and has brought about excellent local conditions. He still retains his membership in the Grange, and is also a Mason. For many years he has been a leading member of the Christian Church.

MADISON MILLHOUSE, a veteran of the Civil War and a well known citizen of Spring Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, is the owner of a valuable farm of 257 acres, located four miles east of Piqua. He was born on this place August 14, 1843, and is of German descent. He is a son of Jacob and Frances Johnson Millhouse, and a grandson of John Millhouse. Mr. Millhouse has among his treasured possessions the honorable discharge, bearing the signature of George Washington, which his grandfather received at the close of that war.

John Millhouse was one of the very early pioneers of Miami County, Ohio, and entered the home farm, for which he received a patent from the Government signed by President Madison. This farm has passed from father to son, and has always been in the Millhouse name, a record which doubtless cannot be equalled by any other family in the records of Miami County history. John and his wife, Margaret Millhouse, were parents of four children, of whom Jacob was the eldest.

Jacob Millhouse was born on the home

farm in Spring Creek Township, and attended the primitive schools of that early period. Although his schooling was limited, he developed unusual ability as a mathematician. He turned his attention to farming, and after the death of his father purchased the interests of the other heirs in the home farm. He was a man of prominence in the community, and lived a life of great usefulness; his death occurred June 20, 1871. He was married to Frances Johnson, a daughter of Isaac Johnson, who was in early life a sailor, but later located on a farm in Spring Creek Township, about one mile west of the Millhouse farm. Two children blessed this marriage: Margaret, who died in 1861; and Madison. Mrs. Millhouse died about seven months after the latter's birth.

Madison Millhouse was reared and educated in Spring Creek Township, and has always followed farming. His is one of the best improved farms in the township, the residence being a large twelve-room brick, which he built in 1877. The barn was erected by his father and grandfather in 1836, but he has a number of times remodeled and enlarged it. He is progressive and public spirited, and has always taken a deep interest in the progress and development of the township and county. During the Civil War he served as a member of Company E, 147th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Johnson, and although he saw considerable service, never met with injury. He suffered with fever for two years, however, after leaving the army.

Mr. Millhouse was united in marriage with Miss Sarah U. Furrow, a daughter of Jeremiah and Sarah Furrow, of Spring Creek Township. Her father was a farmer, and for twenty-five years line master on the Miami and Erie Canal, which he helped to build. He was an early settler here, and lived to reach the age of eighty-six years. His wife died at the age of seventy-seven. They were parents of the following children: Sylvanus; Jane; Martha, deceased; Clarinda; Angeline; Alonzo, deceased; Sarah U., wife of the subject of this sketch; Charlotte; Elizabeth; and two who died in early life. Madison Millhouse and his estimable wife are parents of two children: Murra J., who married Pearl Steward and has a daughter, Helen Frances; and Alberta, wife of Chauncey Young, of Piqua, by whom she has two children, Ralph and Ruth. Politically, Mr. Millhouse is an independent voter. He has served nineteen years on the School Board.

G. E. McCULLOUGH, M. D., one of the leading professional men of the City of Troy, has been a resident of Miami County, Ohio, all his life. He was born near this city in 1872, and is a son of Charles McCullough, a representative of one of the pioneer families of Miami County.

Dr. McCullough is a graduate of Troy High School and attended Wooster University, and after leaving the latter institution began preparation for his professional career. He was graduated from Cincinnati Medical College of Ohio (M. C. O.) in 1889, and soon after receiving his degree opened his office for practice at Troy, where he has met with success. He pursued a post-graduate course in New York Post Graduate College, in New York City, in 1905, and in 1907 completed a course in the Chicago Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat College. He is a member of the Miami County Medical Association, the

Ohio State Medical Society, and the American Medical Association. In 1904 Dr. McCullough was married to Miss Jessie Van Beseler, a native of Troy, Ohio. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and of the Troy Club, and has a wide circle of acquaintances throughout this vicinity.

JOHN W. IRVIN, president of the Washington Township School Board and one of the leading farmers of this section of Miami County, Ohio, was born on the farm on which he resides, June 14, 1851, and is a son of William and Adeline (Brown) Irvin.

William Irvin was a native of Montgomery County, Ohio, born about seven miles south of Dayton, where he lived until after his marriage, when he moved first to Shelby County and later to Miami County, and settled in Washington Township, where he acquired two farms, aggregating 125 acres. He died at Piqua, Ohio, in 1879, and was survived twenty years by his widow. Of their family of nine children, two were born in Shelby County.

John W. Irvin was reared on the home farm, and was educated in the township schools. He has been a farmer all his mature life, and has interested himself in agricultural affairs generally, recognition of this fact being shown by his selection as one of the two members from Washington Township elected on the Miami County Agricultural Board. He has also been active in educational matters, and served several years as a school director prior to the passing of the new school law, which went into effect in 1904, since which time he has continuously held the office of president of the board.

On February 4, 1873, Mr. Irvin was married to Miss Addie Morrow, a daughter of Hugh and Susan Fletcher (Morrison) Morrow. She was born at Piqua, but was reared on her father's farm, which adjoined the Irvin land, in Washington Township. In his early married life, Mr. Morrow engaged in clerking in Piqua, but later settled down to farming and died in Washington Township in 1875. His widow survived until 1893. Mr. and Mrs. Irvin have one son, Wilbur W., who resides on a farm but one mile distant from that of his father. He married Miss Olive Routledge. Mr. Irvin and family are members of the First Presbyterian Church at Piqua.

FRANK GOODMAN DAVIS, merchant and manufacturer of Tippecanoe City, Ohio, was the youngest son, as well as the youngest child of Enoch and Barbara Davis, nee Goodman, and was born in Elizabeth Township, Miami County, Ohio, May 5, 1855.

He moved with his family to the then small village of Tippecanoe in the year 1862, where he entered the union or public schools, in which he continued until he had obtained a very fair common school educatoin, through the use of which, together with his congeniality and his untiring application to his duties, he has gained the enviable and honorable position he now occupies. He is not only well known and popular in and about his immediate home town but throughout the entire county.

Mr. Davis' first employment after leaving school was at telegraphy, working at the key until the death of his father in 1872, which compelled a thorough alteration of all his plans. From the key he went to a clerkship in the general store of Bowman & Lindsley, and from a clerkship with

L[illegible] Lindsley, and [illegible] W. Bowman, he [illegible] be a partner, the firm being Bowman & Davis, which was for many years one of the best known concerns in Miami County in the mercantile business as well as one of the largest distributors of general merchandise in south Miami County. The present firm is Davis & Smith, which firm continues to handle a large part of the general merchandising business of this most prosperous little city and country surrounding.

Mr. Davis was one of the very first promoters of the whip manufacturing industry in Tippecanoe City, and was one of the first incorporators of The Tipp Whip Company and the president of the company for nearly twenty years. He was also the promoter of The Davis Whip Company, which was incorporated eleven years ago, and his official relationship to the company is that of president and general manager. Both these concerns are prosperous and representative of the most modern ideas in whip manufacturing. Their output is marketed all over the United States.

In 1882 Mr. Davis was married to Mary E. Harshbarger, daughter of Isaac D. and Hannah R. Harshbarger, nee Kable. They have three children, Margaret E., Loa L. and Robert G.

Mr. Davis, as well as an active citizen, in nearly everything of good in the town, enjoys distinction in Democratic political circles also, and his strength has been recognized by his party, it having nominated him, unsolicited and against his earnest protest, twice for important offices, his defeat in both instances being accomplished through the most untiring endeavor of his opponents and by a reduction of a big Republican majority to almost no majority at all. His party honored him by sending him as a delegate to the National Democratic Convention that convened in Chicago in 1892 and which nominated Hon. Grover Cleveland for the presidency.

He belongs to F. & A. M. Lodge No. 174, I. O. O. F. Lodge No. 247 and the Royal Arcanum Lodge, all of Tippecanoe City, Ohio.

FRANK W. TENNEY, one of Concord Township's substantial citizens, resides on his farm of forty-six acres, which is situated one mile west of Troy, raises Jersey cattle and high grade horses, owning "Mollie O.," "Mary B.," "Gertie" and "Renaud," all roadsters and registered. Mr. Tenney was born at West Milton, Miami County, Ohio, October 15, 1860, and is a son of W. I. and Jennie (Kelly) Tenney.

The Tenney family is a very prominent one in Miami County and was established here by Dr. Eli Tenney, the grandfather. Hon. W. I. Tenney, whose farm of 167 acres adjoins that of his son Frank W., formerly taught school, probably for thirty years, later went into politics to some extent, was elected and served in the State Legislature, and after completing his father's unexpired term as county auditor, was twice elected to that office. He married Jennie Kelly, who was reared at West Milton, and they had eight children born to them.

Frank W. Tenney was partially educated by his father and attended school at West Milton, later the Troy High School, and spent one winter in college, at Ada. He was about fourteen years old when the family moved to Troy and lived there for nine years and accompanied the family when it took up its residence in Concord

Township, living at home until his marriage. For a number of years he rented different farms and for fifteen years operated a dairy, running a wagon to Troy, and during that time kept from fifty to sixty head of Jersey cattle. The first farm that Mr. Tenney purchased was 126 acres of the old Peckham place, on the Covington turnpike, one mile west of his present farm, and after living on that for six years, he sold it to John Hartstein & Sons. He then bought sixteen acres of his present farm from his father, completing the purchase in December, 1906, in the meanwhile having bought and sold another farm of eighty acres. In addition to his general farm interests, his cattle and horse-raising and the growing of tobacco, Mr. Tenney finds time to act as special agent for the Michigan Mutual Life Insurance Company, of Detroit.

On October 26, 1882, Mr. Tenney was married to Miss Callie M. Tullis, a daughter of O. M. and Sarah (Tullis) Tullis, and they have three children: Roy T., Leila E. and Arthur. Educational and social advantages have been afforded his children by Mr. Tenney and they have been appreciated. Roy T. Tenney is a graduate of the Troy High School and of Delaware College and at present is a teacher of languages in the High School of Minneapolis, Minnesota, a leader of the church choir and also a teacher of vocal music. Leila E. Tenney, who has made teaching music her profession, is a graduate of the Troy High School and was a student of the Conservatory of Music, at Indianapolis. Mr. Tenney and family are members of the Christian Church. Politically he is a Republican and fraternally a Mason.

JOHN C. DRAKE, whose well cultivated farm of eighty-five acres lies in section 30, Washington Township, a little over two miles southwest of Piqua, was born on the old Drake homestead, which is situated almost directly across the road from his own land, February 17, 1838, and is a son of Daniel and Margaret (Curry) Drake.

Both parents of Mr. Drake were born, reared and married in New Jersey. About 1833 Daniel Drake and his brother Jonathan, with their wives, who were sisters, left New Jersey and made the trip to Miami County, Ohio, in farm wagons, and the brothers bought adjoining farms in Washington Township. They had been preceded by an older brother, Jacob Drake, who had purchased land in the southwestern part of this township, which he later sold and invested east of Casstown, where he subsequently died. The parents of John C. Drake died on their farm in Washington Township.

John C. Drake grew to manhood on the home farm and has always devoted himself to agricultural pursuits, formerly carrying on general farming but latterly has given more attention to truck gardening, and as a specialty grows strawberries in great abundance. His present farm is one formerly owned by his father, but he has made the improvements here, building two substantial houses. One of these is a fine brick residence and the other a commodious frame one and he resides in the latter.

Mr. Drake was married (first), to Miss Annie Ledman, who died without issue. His second marriage was to Miss Phebe E. Stewart, who left four children: Hannah, who married David Elliott, died December

28, 1901, survived by four children—Mary, Susie, Charles and Perry; William, who resides in Michigan, married Jennie Marsh and they have two children—Elfleda and Corwin; Daniel, who resides at Ellwood, Indiana, married Lena Behymer and they have one son, Oraville; and Ora Pearl, who married Frank Garbry, has two children—Ralph and Scott. Mr. and Mrs. Garbry live on a farm one mile east of Piqua. Mr. Drake was married (third) to Miss Ada Young, a daughter of David D. Young, and they have one son, John C., born January 20, 1908. Mr. Drake is a member of the official board of Grace Methodist Episcopal Church at Piqua. He is one of the township's representative citizens. In his political views he is a Prohibitionist.

MRS. ABIGAIL W. BOUSMAN, widow of John Bousman, is one of Elizabeth Township's much esteemed, well known and really remarkable women, for in these days there are few indeed, who, at the age of eighty-five years could so capably and thriftily manage a large farm of 113 acres as does Mrs. Bousman. She was born in Piles Grove Township, Salem County, New Jersey, and on February 28, 1909, she celebrated her eighty-fifth birthday. She is a daughter of Peter and Rebecca Hampton.

Mrs. Bousman has been a continuous resident of Elizabeth Township, Miami County, ever since her marriage, with the exception of a short time spent in making a visit to New Jersey, and for the past sixty years has resided on her present farm, where she either erected or remodeled all the buildings. Her husband, John Bousman, was a son of William Bousman, and a grandson of Lawrence Bousman, who came to Elizabeth Township from Virginia and entered Section 26 on November 18, 1813, receiving a sheepskin deed from the Government bearing the date of February 6, 1817. The family has always taken pride in the fact that there has never been a claim or mortgage on this farm. Lawrence Bousman married Sarah Gearheart and they had seven children—Mary, Elizabeth, Phebe, Catherine, William, Leonard, and Samuel.

William Bousman lived on a part of the father's farm in Elizabeth Township all his life. He married Nancy Shell, a daughter of John Shell and they had five children—John, Margaret, James, Sarah, and William.

John Bousman remained at home with his father and helped him take care of the farm, which he inherited on the father's death, and this is the property now owned by Mrs. Bousman and on which she resides. He was a quiet, home-loving man, and was much respected by his neighbors. He died April 13, 1881, aged sixty years, eight months and thirteen days.

To Mr. and Mrs. Bousman were born ten children, five of whom died in infancy. Those who survived childhood were the following: Sabin, who married Jennie Rollins, daughter of Joseph Rollins; Mary, who married William M. Wise, son of Joseph, and Allen Wise, and has two children, Elizabeth and Clara, of whom the former, Elizabeth, married George Lorton, son of William and Elizabeth Lorton; Ellen, who is now deceased; Elizabeth Rebecca, single, who resides with her aged mother; William, who is single and resides with his mother; and John Perry, who is now deceased. Mrs. Bousman has three grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren, and is proud of them all, as she has reason to be, and in turn they are devoted to her. Mrs. Bousman engaged in general farming, making a specialty of raising grain, and the success which follows her oversight demonstrates the strength both of her body and of her mind. She enjoys good health and keeps up her interest in her family, her work, and her neighborhood as easily as she did years ago. She is a member of the Christian Church.

VALENTINE DECKER, pork packer, with extensive facilities for carrying on a business in the necessities of life, dealing in commodities which neither individuals nor nations can do without, has largely been the builder of his own fortunes and has been a resident of Piqua since 1873. He was born in Germany in 1847 and came to America when aged twenty-one years.

Mr. Decker went into the butcher business first at Troy, six months later coming to Piqua and working as a butcher in this city from 1869 until 1871, when he went to Union City, Indiana. He continued to work as a butcher there until 1873, when he returned to Piqua and conducted a retail meat market for twenty-five years, in 1878 erecting a slaughter house, and butchering on a small scale. In 1891 he began the building of his present commodious quarters and they have been added to until he occupies a leading place in the packing industry and has an establishment which compares favorably with any other in this section of the State. For the last ten years he has also conducted a wholesale business in fresh, smoked and salted meats. He slaughters from 150 to 200 hogs a week, thirty-five head of cattle and from twenty to thirty calves, giving employment to twenty workmen and keeping two salesmen on the road. This business is a monument to Mr. Decker's unflagging industry, his prudence, ability and foresight.

In 1873 Mr. Decker was married to Miss Hannah Schafer and they have had the following children: Louis F., George H., Carl J., Walter J., Callie M., Hannah E., and William J. George, Walter, Louis F. and William J. are associated with their father. Louis F. married Minnie Wiltheiss and they live in Piqua. G. H., married Clara Kleiber. Carl J. married Mary Price, and they live in Dayton. Walter J. married Clara M. Prather. Mr. Decker and family are members of St. Boniface Roman Catholic Church, and he has membership with the Knights of Columbus.

GEORGE W. PENCE, who with his son, Harry Pence, owns a fine farm of eighty-eight acres in Brown Township, Miami County, on which he resides, owns also the old homestead farm of 109 acres, in Lost Creek Township, on which he was born in September, 1852. His parents were John N. and Susannah (Shidler) Pence.

Paul Pence, the grandfather of George W., was a very early settler in Lost Creek Township, coming to this section immediately following his marriage and passing the whole of his subsequent life here, dying at the age of seventy-five years. He was also a native of Miami County.

John N. Pence was born on the home farm in Lost Creek Township, a son of Paul and Mary (Newport) Pence. After his marriage he purchased the farm of 109 acres now owned by his son, George W., and died there in 1864, a victim of typhoid fever, when but thirty-three years of age. He married Susannah Shidler and they had three children: George W., the only survivor; William, who was accidentally killed by a falling tree; and Elmira Jane, who died when aged three years.

George W. Pence obtained his education in the schools of Lost Creek Township, after which he went to live with his uncle, on his grandfather's farm, and remained there until his marriage, when he took up his residence on the home place in Lost Creek Township and lived there until a fire destroyed the house on January 1, 1896. For the next seven years, Mr. Pence and family lived on the Morton farm. In the spring of 1904 he came to his present place in Brown Township and after settling here commenced quite a large amount of improving. The brick residence then standing had been built in 1838 and was still in a good state of preservation, but Mr. Pence had it thoroughly renovated and built a frame addition which has added to its comfort quite considerably. He devotes all his land to general farming and is numbered with the township's prosperous agriculturists.

Mr. Pence married Miss Josephine Shanks, who was born and reared on the present home farm. Her father was Daniel Shanks and her grandfather was Peter Shanks, the latter of whom entered this land from the Government. For years he was a prominent pioneer of this part of Miami County and he lived until 1887, dying when aged ninety-three years. Mr. and Mrs. Pence have three children, namely: Harry, who resides at home; Myrtle, who is the wife of Walter Reed, a farmer of Miami County, has three children; and Ivy, who married William Mitchell, of Champaign County, has one son, Harry. Mr. Pence and family belong to the Christian Church. In politics he is a Democrat. The only office he has ever accepted has been that of school director, in which he has served for twenty-one years. He is identified with the fraternal order of Odd Fellows.

L. H. McCONNELL, president of the Board of Public Safety of Troy, Ohio, is superintendent of the McKinnon Dash Company and one of the substantial business men of the city. He was born in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1859, and has been a resident of Troy since 1895. Mr. McConnell was reared and educated in his native city, but after leaving school moved from St. Louis to Menominee, Wisconsin, where he engaged in general merchandizing for a period of three years. He then returned to St. Louis and for a time dealt in heavy hardware and wagon and carriage materials. He next engaged in the manufacture of carriages for eight years, at the end of which time he moved to Columbus, Ohio, and formed a connection with the McKinnon Dash Company. He remained there three years and in 1895 came to Troy and superintended the construction of the plant of the McKinnon Dash Company at this place. He has been in charge of this concern ever since and has won high rank among the business men of the city. He served several terms as a member of the City Council and is at present president of the Board of Public Safety.

In 1893 Mr. McConnell was married at Columbus, Ohio, to Miss Josephine V. Doherty, of St. Louis. He is a prominent member of the Masonic Order, and belongs to the Knights Templar. Religiously, Mr. and Mrs. McConnell are attendants of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which she is a member.

L. H. McCONNELL

JOHN A. WEHNEMAN, one of the trustees of Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio, is a prosperous farmer and owns and resides upon a farm of 140 acres lying in Section 35, about seven miles northwest of Covington. He was born on a farm in Shelby County, Ohio, October 22, 1859, and is a son of John Henry and Annie Elizabeth (Fichen) Wehneman, both natives of Germany.

John Andrew Wehneman, grandfather of the subject of this record, was born in Germany and lived in that country until 1835, when he came to the United States. He in that year settled in Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio, on the farm now owned by his grandson, John A. Wehneman, and lived there until his death.

After his marriage, John Henry Wehneman moved to Shelby County, to his farm near where his wife's people had located upon their arrival from Germany. There John A. Wehneman was born and reared, and received his educational training in the common schools. He early turned his attention to farming, and for a period of eleven years before his marriage also operated a threshing outfit. He and his wife lived in Shelby County until 1891, when they moved to a farm in Darke County, Ohio. In 1896, they took up their residence in Newberry Township, Miami County, where for three years he rented a farm, but December 5, 1899, he moved to his present farm, which he had purchased earlier in that year. He is engaged in general farming and in partnership with his sons owns a threshing machine which they operate. He also raises and fattens from 100 to 125 hogs each year, making that a specialty. He is a Democrat in politics, and since January 1, 1907, has served with marked ability as township trustee. Before the law was changed he was for seven years a member of the School Board, and at the present time is local director for his school district. He is a man who takes a deep interest in matters relating to the welfare of the community, and stands high among the enterprising and public spirited citizens.

Mr. Wehneman was united in marriage with Elizabeth Stein, a daughter of Christopher Stein of Shelby County, and they have had the following children: Walter Frederick, who married Lorena Brill, and they have one daughter, Helen; and John William, Ida, Leonard, Lottie Ann, Minnie, Forrest, and Oscar Andrew. Religiously, they are members of the Lutheran Church, of which he served as deacon and also as trustee.

OWEN MURRAY, who resides on his valuable farm of forty-three acres, which is situated in Newberry Township, on the Troy Turnpike Road, about one mile southeast of Covington, Ohio, was born November 17, 1858, on an adjoining farm, which is still occupied by his mother. His parents were Samuel and Mary (Shellebarger) Murray.

Samuel Murray was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, a son of David and Elizabeth (Kimmel) Murray. When he was seven years old his parents moved to Miami County and settled in Newberry Township. When he reached manhood he married Mary Shellebarger, a daughter of Jacob and Hannah (Mohler) Shellebarger. She was born in Pennsylvania and was five years old when her parents came to Miami County. Her father, Jacob Shellebarger, entered land in Newberry Town ship, which he cleared and developed into a good farm. For some time after their marriage Samuel Murray and wife lived on a farm situated on the Piqua Turnpike Road, after which they moved to the farm on which Owen Murray was born. On that farm Samuel Murray spent the remainder of his useful and exemplary life, his death occurring on November 10, 1895, when he was sixty-seven years of age. He was a member of the old order of the Dunkard or German Baptist Church, a people noted for their simplicity of life and their high moral standards. In this same simple faith he reared his family. Eight children were born to Samuel Murray and wife, the five survivors being Owen, Catherine, Emma and Ella (all married and living in California), and Charles, who resides on the homestead with the venerable mother.

Owen Murray has devoted himself to farming and his land in its fine state of cultivation shows that he has given it a great deal of attention. His crops are the usual ones of this section—wheat, oats, corn, hay and tobacco—all doing well. He married Sarah E. Shaw, a daughter of Samuel M. and Catherine Shaw. She was reared in Shelby County. After they were married they went to housekeeping on the present farm, and the substantial buildings were put up by Mr. Murray. They have no children. They are members of the old order Dunkard Church.

GEORGE W. SUBER, who comes of an old and well known family of Brown Township, Miami County, Ohio, operates eighty acres of the old Suber estate, forty acres now owned by his mother, and twenty acres owned by himself. He was born September 13, 1870, in the house which stands on the old place, and is a son of William D. and Mary A. Suber, the former of whom was for many years before his death recognized as one of the foremost citizens of the community.

George W. Suber attended the district schools of the township, also at Lena and in the Conover Special District. He left school at the time of his father's death in order to do farm work, fully expecting to resume his schooling the following fall, but was unable to do so. He has ever since had charge of the home farm and of the tract of twenty acres which he purchased. In July, 1905, he erected the substantial home on the latter which he now occupies. Mr. Suber was united in marriage with Miss Kitty C. Huddleston, a daughter of Thomas and Clara Huddleston, of Champaign County, Ohio. The Huddleston family is an old one of that county and is well known. One daughter, Clara Marie, has been born to them, the date of her birth being August 16, 1905. Religiously they are members of the Presbyterian Church of Fletcher. Mr. Suber is a Democrat in politics and is a member of the School Board, of which he was clerk for six years.

HON. WALTER D. JONES, common pleas judge for the Second Judicial District of Ohio, and one of the best known and most highly esteemed residents of Piqua, was born in this city, June 21, 1857, son of Hon. M. H. and Jane (Wood) Jones. His father, who resides in Piqua, and who is one of the best lawyers in Miami County, was born in the District of Columbia in 1825, and became a resident of Piqua, Ohio, at a comparatively early date. For a number of years he was associated with his son, the subject of this sketch, in a law partnership in this city, the firm commanding the leading practice here, and he might almost be called the Nestor of the bar, having been engaged in legal practice here for a period of sixty years.

Walter D. Jones was reared and educated in Piqua, being graduated from the high school here in 1872. He then began industrial life, learning the printer's trade, at which he worked in the office of the Miami *Helmet* and in other newspaper offices for several years. In the meanwhile, under his father's direction, he was acquiring a stock of legal learning, and having successfully mastered the principles of his profession, was admitted to the bar at Columbus, Ohio, before the Supreme Court of the State, in 1878. His first practice was in partnership with his father, with whom he continued for a number of years, or until his appointment by Gov. Bushnell as common pleas judge, to fill the vacancy caused by the election of Judge Theodore Sullivan to the Circuit Court bench. In the November election of 1899 he was elected by the people to fill the unexpired term of Judge Sullivan; he was re-elected for a full term in 1902, and again re-elected in 1907. In this position, which he holds at present, he has shown all the capabilities of an upright and learned jurist, taking a comprehensive view of every case, and impartial in his decisions, which are based upon a sound knowledge of the principles of law and a careful consideration of the evidence in every case which comes before him. His uniform courtesy, as well to the younger as to the older members of the profession, has made him popular with all, and he is much esteemed by his legal confreres, as he is respected by the citizens generally throughout the district, who see in him a faithful and capable public servant. Before his elevation to the bench he served for twelve years as city solicitor of Piqua, being elected for six terms, a record which shows the confidence reposed in him by his fellow citizens.

In his political principles Judge Jones is a stanch Republican, but has not been an active member in the ranks of his party, preferring to devote his best energies to the creditable performance of the duties pertaining to his judicial office. Of decided literary tastes, he is an able writer, but hitherto has not sought to gain a reputation with his pen. He is a prominent member of the Masonic order, has served as worshipful master of Warren Lodge, No. 24, F. & A. M., and as high priest of Piqua Chapter, No. 31.

In 1879 Hon. Walter D. Jones was united in marriage with Miss Laura Harlow, then and now a resident of Piqua, but who was born in Tennessee, and who in her eighteenth year accompanied her parents, Rev. William D. and Kate (Tuttle) Harlow, to Miami County, Ohio. Their union has been blessed by the birth of one child, a daughter—Laura C. It is a matter of pride to Judge Jones that he has not had to go to some distant State to achieve success, but has carved out for himself an honorable career in the city of his birth and among those who know him best—the friends of his early years, and those of his own name and blood.

L. C. NEWBY, a prosperous merchant of West Milton, Miami County, Ohio, is proprietor of a grocery in partnership with Mr. P. A. Yount. He is a man of varied experience in the business world, and has at times been located in various parts of the United States. He was born in Indiana, in 1860, and is a son of A. Newby, who engaged in farming in that State and later in Kansas.

L. C. Newby attended the common schools in Indiana, and later in Kansas, whither his parents moved in 1872, when he was twelve years old. In 1880 he went west to Colorado, where he engaged in mining for twenty years, then followed the same business in California. He then returned east to Ohio, and January 1, 1906, entered partnership with P. A. Yount in the groceries and hardware business, having a double store, groceries in one room and hardware in the other. In January, 1909, they sold the hardware department to Mr. E. T. Wenger, its present proprietor, and the firm of Yount & Newby has since continued in the grocery business. They carry a complete line of groceries and the usual side lines, and the patronage accorded them by the people has been indeed flattering.

Mr. Newby was first married to Miss Minnie Kennedy, by whom he had two sons, Lawrence E. and Raymond W. He formed a second union with Miss Belle Yount. Religiously he and his wife are members of the Christian Church, but he is of Quaker ancestry. He is a Republican in politics, whilst fraternally he has been affiliated with the Knights of Pythias for twelve years.

WILLIAM F. DEETER, superintendent of schools for Newton Township, is a well-to-do farmer and has a fine farm of eighty acres located in Section 2 of that township. He was born in Pleasant Hill, January 30, 1865, and is a son of Samuel R. and Susan (Freshour) Deeter; and a grandson of Jacob Deeter.

Jacob Deeter was born in Pennsylvania, and at an early age settled at Pleasant Hill, in Miami County, Ohio, where he farmed until his death in 1865. He and his wife were buried at Sugar Grove Cemetery. Her maiden name was Reed. Religiously they were members of the German Baptist Church.

Samuel R. Deeter, father of the subject of this record, was born in Pleasant Hill, Miami County, Ohio, December 28, 1829, and is now a venerated and respected citizen of Covington. He is living in retirement after a long and useful business career. He was a carpenter and cabinet maker by trade, and in addition followed house moving and undertaking for many years. Religiously he is a member of the Brethren Church, as is his wife. He was married to Susan Freshour, a daughter of George Freshour, and they became parents of the following: Elizabeth, wife of George Mohler, of Circle Hill; Ella, wife of J. W. Pearson, of Covington; Malinda, deceased wife of Samuel McBride; William F.; Jacob E., who married Mary Patty, a daughter of Finley and Lucinda Patty; Callie, wife of W. H. Cassell, of Dayton; Charles S., who married Alice Thayer and resides in Indianapolis, Indiana; Lillian, wife of M. B. Ullery, of Covington; one who died in infancy; and Emma, who died young.

William F. Deeter attended the schools of Newton Township, and then taught for seven years. In 1889 he rented a farm of his father and followed farming for five years. He then took up teaching for eight years, six years of which were spent in the Covington schools. In 1903 he went to farming for himself, locating on his present farm of eighty acres, where he has continued with unvarying success. The buildings were all standing at the time of its purchase by him, but he has made many other important improvements. He was elected superintendent of the township schools in September, 1905, and in that capacity has done much to bring the schools to a higher plane of efficiency. He also served for a time as a member of the Board of Education.

September 18, 1887, Mr. Deeter was united in marriage with Miss Emma Fox, a daughter of John and Hannah (Mohler) Fox, and the following was the offspring of their union: One who died in infancy; Calla, who is a teacher in the schools; Pearl, who is in attendance at Covington High School; and Clarence, who attends the public schools. Religiously they are members of the Brethren Church at Pleasant Hill. Politically Mr. Deeter is a Republican, as have been his father and grandfather before him.

MYRON IDDINGS comes of an old and prominent family of Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, where he is the owner of a fine farm of 183 acres, located in Sections 33 and 34. He was born on the home place in Newton Township, June 20, 1865, and is a son of Benjamin and Sarah (McDowell) Iddings, and a grandson of Joseph Iddings.

Joseph Iddings, the grandfather, was born in Tennessee, and in 1802 moved north to Miami County, Ohio, where he was among the early settlers. He settled in Section 34 in Newton Township, where Myron now lives, and there passed the remainder of his days. He married a Miss Davis and they had the following children: William, John, Davis and Benjamin.

Benjamin Iddings was born in Newton Township, July 31, 1815, and always followed farming. He owned the 183-acre farm in Sections 33 and 34 now owned by his son, and made many of the improvements on the place. He was first married to Barbara Hill, a daughter of Nathan Hill, and the following were their offspring: Delany, A. J., Elizabeth, Mary, William, Henry, Jasper, Belle and James. Mrs. Iddings died and was buried at Pleasant Hill Cemetery. He formed a second union with Sarah McDowell, a daughter of Samuel McDowell, and she survives him and resides at Covington. Two children blessed this union, Seymour and Myron. Mr. Iddings lived on the home farm until his death, November, 1901, and was buried at Pleasant Hill. He was a member of the Shiloh Christian Church, and in politics was a Democrat.

Myron Iddings attended school in Union Township, after which he aided his father on the farm. At the time of his marriage, in 1890, he moved upon a twenty-three-acre tract, where he lived for about ten years, during that time farming the home place for his father. Upon the latter's death he purchased the interests of the other heirs in the farm and moved into the old home. In 1902 he erected a fine new frame house, in which he now lives. He has made extensive improvements on the place, including the erection of a substantial tobacco shed and the laying of 1,200 rods of tile for drainage. His father had previously laid some 1,000 feet of tile. He raises the various small grains, hay, potatoes and tobacco, having an average of from six to eight acres of the latter product each year. He also has a splendid orchard on the place.

February 2, 1890, Myron Iddings was married to Miss Bertha Ingle, a daughter of Alexander and Sarah (Kendig) Ingle, and they are parents of the following: George, a member of the class of 1909 at West Milton High School; Howard Donald, who died in infancy; Robert Forest, a member of the class of 1913 at West Milton High School; Randall Morris; Joseph Calvin; and Margaret Elizabeth. The three last named are attending the public schools of Union Township. Religiously they are members of the Friends Church. Mr. Iddings is a Democrat, but is in no sense a politician.

JOHN DODD, proprietor of a general store located on Main Street, in Conover, Miami County, Ohio, has a large and well established business and draws trade from a large territory surrounding the village. He was born in Brown Township, Miami County, in 1859, and is a son of William and Honora (Griffin) Dodd. William Dodd was an old and well known resident of this community. He was for twenty-eight years section boss on the Panhandle Railroad, and then settled down on a farm which he purchased at the edge of Conover. There he farmed until his death at the age of sixty-five years. He married Honora Griffin, of Franklin County, Ohio, and they became parents of eight children, of whom four are now living.

John Dodd attended the public schools of Brown Township, after which he worked on the home farm for a time. He purchased the store of J. N. Frazier at Conover, and has since carried on this business in a highly successful manner. He has a large line of general dry goods and groceries and carries the many little side lines for which there is a demand in a small village. Mr. Dodd was united in marriage with Miss Retta Lauer, a daughter of Dr. J. D. Lauer, of Conover, and they have a very comfortable home in the village. Religiously they are members of the Catholic Church at St. Paris. He is a Democrat in politics and served two years as treasurer of Brown Township.

JOHN HOLFINGER, a prosperous farmer of Concord Township, Miami County, Ohio, is the owner of 144½ acres of land, of which 67½ acres are included in his home place on the Pleasant Hill Road, about five miles west of Troy. The other farm is half way between Troy and Covington, and is the site of the old half-way house which was well known in earlier days. Mr. Holfinger was born in Washington Township, Miami County, Ohio, October 23, 1853, and is a son of John Bernard and Agnes Barbara (Streib) Holfinger.

John Bernard Holfinger was born at Moessingen, Wurtemberg, Germany, May 9, 1820, and lived there for some years after his marriage. In 1853 they sold out in Germany and came to the United States, locating at once in Miami County, Ohio. He purchased a farm in Washington Township and, with the exception of five years in Darke County, lived upon it the remainder of his life, which closed September 3, 1899. He was married in Germany to Barbara Streib, who was born at Moessingen, Wurtemberg, January 7, 1823, and by whom he had children as follows: Sebastian, born November 5, 1843, at Moessingen;

Lewis, born February 15, 1846, at Moessingen, died April 27, 1870; George, born March 7, 1848, at Moessingen; Barbara, born September 16, 1849, at Moessingen, died October 23, 1849; Christina, born December 27, at Moessingen, died April 10, 1855; Agnes, born September 15, 1852, at Moessingen, died August 19, 1855; John, born October 23, 1853, in Washington Township, Miami County, Ohio; Rosina Reichman, nee Holfinger, born March 8, 1856, in Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio; Peter, born August 14, 1857, in Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio; Mary Barbara, born July 15, 1859, in Franklin Township, Darke County, Ohio; John Martin, born September 29, 1860, in Franklin Township, Darke County, Ohio; Bernard, born June 24, 1863, in Washington Township, Miami County, Ohio; Samuel, born August 20, 1865, in Washington Township, Miami County, Ohio; Hanna Patty, nee Holfinger, born November 28, 1867, in Washington Township, Miami County, Ohio, died May, 1901. The mother of these children passed away March 28, 1884.

Mr. Holfinger, after the death of his first wife, formed a second union with Lucy Myers, who survives him. His death occurred September 3, 1899, at the age of eighty years.

John Holfinger was reared on the home farm in Washington Township, and in early boyhood became inured to hard work, having little opportunity for schooling. He helped clear the home farm, which consisted of eighty acres, only six of which were cleared when the Holfingers located upon it. When he became of age he began shifting for himself, his entire possessions at that time being the clothing he had upon his back. After working a few days he earned enough to buy an ax, with which he went into the woods and worked until spring. He then hired out to Samuel Reish for the summer, at $18 per month, and again the following winter worked in the woods. Thus he struggled along, working and saving, until his marriage in 1877, when he rented a farm in Newton Township, of Captain Rouser. He remained on that place six years, then lived in Darke County for two years, at the end of which time he traded with John S. Myers for his present home farm. He erected all the buildings on the place, made many desirable improvements and placed it under a high state of cultivation. He purchased the Midway Farm on the Troy and Covington Pike from the Musselman estate. He is a man of great energy and enterprise, and the success which has attended his efforts is due to his own perseverance and industry, and the faithful assistance of his wife. He is a man of wide acquaintance and has many friends.

January 1, 1877, Mr. Holfinger was united in marriage with Eliza Musselman, a daughter of John and Sarah Musselman, and they have two children—Lula, wife of Henry Schlegel; and Ira J., who lives on the Midway farm. The latter married Effie Wilson and they have one son, John Francis. Religiously the family belongs to the Lutheran Church at Covington. Mr. Holfinger is a Democrat in politics.

ALFRED M. BRANT, attorney and city solicitor for the corporation of Bradford, and vice-president of the First National Bank of that city, was born in Bradford, June 17, 1882, son of David and Rachel (Swank) Brant. When he was six years old he went to reside with an uncle, Israel

Routson, who lived north of Bradford in the country, and who, being childless, prevailed upon Mr. and Mrs. Brant to allow him the custody of the child. Here young Brant attended the township schools and afterwards became a student at the Bradford High School. For three years subsequently he was engaged in the occupation of teaching, during which time he prepared himself for admittance to the Ohio Northern University. From this latter institution he was later graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Science, and from the Law School of the University with that of L. L. B.—in June, 1907. During the summer vacation of 1906 he read law under Prosecuting Attorney Yount, at Greenville, Darke County. After passing an excellent examination before the State Board of Bar Examiners, he was sworn in as an attorney-at-law before the Supreme Court of Ohio, June 18, 1907. Soon after he began the practice of his profession in Bradford, where he is now located. He was appointed city solicitor March 1, 1908, and was reappointed in the following year. Early in 1908 he was made a director and elected vice-president of the First National Bank of Bradford, being probably the youngest bank official in the entire state.

Mr. Brant has thus made an auspicious entry into life's battlefield and has already secured an honorable place in the ranks of brain-workers. With his native energy and mental equipment, his prospects for a successful career seem of the best, and those who know him feel sure that the honors he has already secured and the responsibilities he has assumed are but stepping-stones to greater honors and responsibilities awaiting him in the not distant future.

Mr. Brant's political creed identifies him in all essential respects with the Democratic party, but he reserves the right to act independently whenever he may see good cause. He is a member of the German Baptist Church.

E. VAN HORN is a well known farmer of Union Township, Miami County, Ohio, and resides on the farm of 151 acres known as the Horseshoe Bend farm, located one and a half miles northeast of Ludlow Falls. He was born at West Milton, Ohio, September 1, 1854, and is a son of John and Catherine (Kinkaid) Van Horn. He was about eighteen months old when his father went west to Kansas, and nothing was afterward known concerning him or his whereabouts.

The subject of this record is one of five children born to his parents, namely: Robert, of Terre Haute, Indiana; Julia, who lives in Kentucky; Frances, deceased; Amanda, deceased; and E. Van Horn. The last named received his educational training in the public schools of Warren County, Ohio, where his mother was born and reared. Upon leaving school he worked out by the month until about 1880 or 1881, when he rented the Johns farm near Tippecanoe City. He remained on that place nine years, then successively rented the Woodward Hills place four years and the Troop farm two years. Since that time he has lived continuously on the Hayner place, commonly known as the Horseshoe Bend farm. He is engaged in general farming and tobacco raising and is meeting with deserved success. He has a wide acquaintance throughout this section of the county and is very popular with his fellow men.

Mr. Van Horn was united in marriage with Mollie Goepper, who was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, and is a daughter of Leopold and Susan B. (Pendery) Goepper. Her father was born in Germany, July 4, 1827, and was about fourteen years of age when he accompanied his parents to the United States, locating in Warren County, Ohio, where he now lives at the age of eighty-two years. Mr. Goepper married Susan B. Pendery, who was born in Hamilton, Ohio, July 23, 1834, and is now living at the age of seventy-five years. They became parents of the following children: Mollie and Clara, twins; Edward, deceased; William, deceased; Jefferson, deceased; Eugene, deceased; Albert; Fannie; Victor; and Charlotte, who died in infancy. Edward Goepper was a sergeant of police in Cincinnati, Ohio, and Albert Goepper is in the railway mail service.

Mr. and Mrs. Van Horn have had five children, namely: Charles, who is proprietor of a laundry at Lockland, Ohio; Harry, who is in the employ of the Stem & Foster Manufacturing Company, at Lockland, Ohio; Bradford, who is farming the Hance place in Union Township; Mae E., who is at home with her parents; and Fannie, who died at the age of six years. Religiously she is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Van Horn is a Republican in politics, and fraternally is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

HON. J. HARRISON SMITH, one of the leading members of the Miami County bar, and a man who stands high in the esteem of his fellow citizens, was born in Piqua, where he now resides, on September 1, 1861, son of John Frederick and Mary (Sullenbarger) Smith. His father, who was born in Baden Baden, Germany, in 1833, after coming to America enlisted in the Union army and was killed at the battle of Stone River. John F. Smith had not long been married when he thus met an untimely end, for it was but in 1860 that he was united in wedlock to Mary Sullenbarger, who had become a resident of this county some ten years previously, coming hither with her parents from her native county of Westmoreland, Pennsylvania, where she was reared.

The subject of this sketch acquired his elementary education in the public schools of Piqua, and graduated from the high school in the class of 1884. In the following year he became a student in the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio, where he remained for a year. He then entered Harvard University, where, besides taking the regular classical course, he studied philosophy, history, political economy, and law. The last mentioned study he pursued with special ardor, for he had resolved to adopt the legal profession as his future sphere of activity. After leaving college he commenced the practical study of law under the mentorship of the Hon. John McDonald, of Piqua. That he showed himself a young man of capacity may be gathered from the fact that he soon afterwards—in 1890—received the appointment as special agent in the United States census department to ascertain the mortgaged indebtedness of the states of Mississippi and Arkansas, which work occupied him for some six months. He was then offered a position at Washington, D. C., to assist in the classification of the mortgaged indebtedness of the United States, and was there engaged until 1893.

While a resident of the nation's capital he entered the Columbia Law School (now the George Washington Law School) and pursued his studies to such good advantage that he was graduated a bachelor of law in 1891, and received the degree of master of law in the following year. He was admitted to the bar at Richmond, Virginia, in 1893.

On returning to his home in Miami County, Mr. Smith, instead of immediately taking up the practice of his profession, spent two years working on the farm; but in March, 1896, he was admitted to practice in his native state, and has since been engaged in the practice of law in the city of Piqua. In November, 1896, he was elected on the Republican ticket as prosecuting attorney, assuming the duties of the office in the following January, and serving two terms. He soon proved his efficiency, and it is the general opinion that the legal business of the county was never better taken care of than when in his hands. Mr. Smith was probate judge from November, 1902, and served one term. He was subsequently nominated for a second term, but on this occasion suffered defeat.

For a number of years past Mr. Smith has taken an active and beneficial interest in local, state, and congressional politics, his aim being not merely the success of his party, but the carrying out of the popular will and the perpetuation of pure, stable and representative government. As a lawyer he takes a high rank, possessing not only the qualifications of a good attorney, but also a high degree of forensic ability and eloquence. He is also a keen judge of character and has been especially successful in jury cases. He has a convenient and well appointed office in the Orr Block.

Mr. Smith belongs to various prominent fraternal orders, being a member of Dayton Lodge, No. 147, F. & A. M.; Piqua Lodge No. 8, I. O. O. F., and Piqua Lodge, No. 523, B. P. O. E.; also of Loramie Tribe, Improved Order of Red Men, No. 153, Piqua; and Council No. 80, Junior Order of American Mechanics.

He was married in 1895 to Miss Anna E. Ball, a daughter of William B. and Kate Ball, of Memphis, Tennessee. They have had two children—John H., who died, and Fred W., who was born August 1, 1908.

JOHN G. MYERS, grain merchant and tobacco dealer, residing at Pleasant Hill, is one of the leading business men of Miami County, being a stockholder in the First National Bank at Troy, vice-president of the Pleasant Hill Banking Company, president of the Myers Grain Company, and manager of the Myers & Patty Elevator Company. He was born July 12, 1854, in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and is a son of Michael and Susan (Groff) Myers.

Michael Myers was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, August 25, 1831, and is a retired resident of Pleasant Hill. He remained in his native place until after his marriage and the birth of five children, when he came to Miami County, Ohio, and settled first at Pleasant Hill. Later he bought a farm of twenty-five acres, but sold it and then went to Brownsville, Nebraska, where he engaged in a butchering business for a time, after which he returned to Pleasant Hill and for twenty subsequent years was engaged in a huckstering business, purchasing twenty-six acres of land in Newton Township. He is a stockholder in the Pleasant Hill Banking Company. In politics he is a Democrat, and for a number of years he served in the Town Council, during which he advocated many of the reforms and improvements which have made the place an excellent one both for business and residence. He is a leading member of the Christian Church. He married Susan Groff, a daughter of John Groff, and they had six children: John G.; Amos and Monroe, Mary Ann, Isaac and Henry, who is a resident of Chicago, Illinois. Amos, Monroe and Isaac are now deceased. Mary Ann married John S. Debray, lives at Dayton, and they have two children, Joe and Wanda.

John G. Myers finished his education in the Pleasant Hill schools and then helped his father both in this section and during the time the family lived at Brownsville. Later he helped his father in the huckstering business and operated a wagon for about fifteen years. In 1879 he built the elevator known as the Myers&Patty at Pleasant Hill and also bought one at Ludlow Falls, and at Maria Stein, Mercer County, and built one at Reignville, all of these being owned by the Myers & Patty Company. In 1893 he went into the tobacco business at Pleasant Hill. His interests are numerous and important, but he has a firm grasp of all their details and has the reputation of being one of the most farseeing and able business men of this section.

In October, 1874, Mr. Myers was married to Miss Mary Belle Patty, a daughter of Dr. William and Sarah Jane Patty. They had two sons, Charles M. and William M. The former is connected with the Myers Grain Company as manager, and operates track buying at Columbus, Ohio; married Florence Favorite, and they have three children—Mary Belle, Carolyn and Ouida. William M. is manager of the Myers grain business at Lockburn, Ohio, and is treasurer of the Myers Grain Company. The mother of these sons died June 29, 1889. Mr. Myers was married (second) August 14, 1890, to Miss Alwilda Ellis, a daughter of James and Lydia Ellis, of Clinton County, Ohio, and they have one daughter, Vesta Marie, who is in school.

GEORGE W. PLEASANT is a prominent farmer and tobacco grower of Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is the owner of a fifty-acre farm in Section 26 of that township. He was born in Augusta County, Virginia, July 4, 1865, and is a son of William and Ellen Pleasant.

William Pleasant, father of the subject of this record, was born in Virginia and lived there until his death, which occurred in 1867 while in middle life. His widow now resides in Dayton, Ohio. They became parents of the following children: William, Robert, James, George W. and Jane.

George W. Pleasant was very small when his mother moved to Ohio, and he received his first schooling near Dayton, in Montgomery County. He subsequently attended the Penny Creek school in Darke County, Ohio, and after leaving school was engaged for himself in the general store business at Painter Creek, in Darke County. At the end of four years he sold out and purchased his present farm of fifty acres in Newton Township, Miami County. All of the buildings were standing on the place at the time of its purchase by him, except the tobacco shed, which he built. He has done considerable tiling and made other improvements of an important nature, and has a well kept and attractive property. He follows general farming and tobacco raising, having an average acreage of about eight acres in tobacco each year. He is progressive in his methods and a hard worker and is meeting with deserved success.

December 24, 1891, Mr. Pleasant was joined in marriage with Miss Olive Miles, a daughter of Samuel Miles, and they have one son, Willis, who is a member of the class of 1912 in Pleasant Hill High School. Religiously they are members of the Friends Church. In fraternal affiliation Mr. Pleasant is a member of the Knights of Pythias at Laura. He is a Democrat in politics, but has no political aspirations.

E. N. SNYDER, a leading citizen of Newberry Township, residing on his valuable farm of eighty-seven acres, which lies on the Range line road, near the Shelby County line, about five and one-half miles north of Covington, was born in Preble County, Ohio, March 16, 1833, and is a son of Henry and Eva Parmelia (Mow) Snyder, both of whom spent their worthy lives there.

E. N. Snyder attended the district schools and grew to manhood a practical farmer. Following his marriage he settled on one of his father-in-law's farms, in Montgomery County, but one year later, in 1858, moved to his present farm in Newberry Township. Mr. Snyder has resided on this place for fifty-one years, during which long period he has made many improvements in the way of erecting farm buildings, but the same house shelters the family now that stood on the place when he and wife moved here. Its appearance, however, is entirely different, but the foundation is the same. Its original construction was of logs and to the first structure Mr. Snyder added, later put in new floors, ceilings, etc., and it has all the appearance of a modern house.

On March 16, 1856, Mr. Snyder was married to Miss Huldah Wysong, a daughter of Valentine Wysong, and they had three children born to them, namely: Anderson Snyder, a prominent farmer in this township, married (first) Harriet Rhoades, who died leaving three children, and (second) Mina Stiver, and they have one child; Valentine, who died just as he reached manhood; and Lucy Ann, who married William Palsgrove, has had three children, two daughters surviving. From his long residence here and on account of his high personal character, Mr. Snyder has been one of the township's influential as well as useful men and it was mainly through his efforts that the mile of turnpike passing his house, on the Range line road, was finally built. He made three different trials before this public-spirited enterprise was put through.

GEORGE B. MORROW, general farmer and stock raiser, who owns and successfully operates a farm of 110 acres, is a leading citizen of Brown Township. He was born in Brown Township, Miami County, Ohio, January 6, 1881, and is a son of R. C. and Jane (Caven) Morrow.

R. C. Morrow was born in Shelby County, Ohio, where the Morrow family settled at an early day. For a number of years he engaged in agricultural pursuits in Shelby and in Miami Counties and then embarked in a livery business at Piqua, where he has a large establishment on North Street,

RESIDENCE OF E. N. SNYDER, NEWBERRY TOWNSHIP

near the center of the city. He was married (first) to Jane Caven, who, at death left one child, George B. Mr. Morrow was married (second) to Sallie Stockstill, who died without issue, and (third) to Molly Palser. In politics R. C. Morrow is a Republican.

After completing his school attendance, George B. Morrow located on his present farm and has since given his entire attention to developing its resources. His products are the usual ones of this section, and he gives special attention to raising first class stock. In 1904 Mr. Morrow was married to Miss Rachel Wilgus, a daughter of Thomas Wilgus, and they have one son, Caven W., who was born February 12, 1905. Mr. and Mrs. Morrow are members of the Presbyterian Church. Politically he is identified with the Democratic party.

G. JACOB ZIMMERLIN, a retired farmer and most highly esteemed citizen of Piqua, residing in that part of the city known as the Rossville Addition, was born in 1832, in Germany, and is a son of George Jacob and Sally (Jenney) Zimmerlin.

In 1846 the parents of Mr. Zimmerlin came to America and settled in Miami County, on the land on which their son now lives, and made this the old homestead. Here they died in advanced age, leaving the farm of fifty acres to their son, G. Jacob. In 1858 he bought a farm of eighty acres in Washington Township and lived on that until the parents died, when he moved back to the old homestead and has lived here continuously ever since his marriage. He has been a farmer all his mature life and continued to personally operate his land until within a few years.

Mr. Zimmerlin married Miss Magdalena Jenney, and they have three children: George H., who resides on the Washington Township farm; Emma, who is the wife of A. Schultz, who farms the old homestead; and Catherine, who is the wife of William Roeser, an ice dealer at Piqua. Mr. Zimmerlin is a leading member of the German Lutheran Church at Piqua.

JOSEPH B. BRANDT, one of Newberry Township's representative citizens, engages in farming and threshing and resides on a valuable farm of 100 acres, which he owns jointly with his wife. This property is favorably situated on the Stillwater Turnpike Road, two and one-half miles north of Bradford. Mr. Brandt was born on a farm in Darke County, Ohio, January 23, 1859, and is a son of Melchi and Frances (Brown) Brandt.

Joseph B. Brandt was reared and attended school in Darke County, and ever since old enough to use farm implements has been engaged in work of an agricultural nature. He owns a threshing-machine and does a large business in that line. In 1901 he and wife purchased this farm, which formerly belonged to Abraham Miller, his father-in-law, and here he carries on general farming.

In 1887 Mr. Brandt was married to Miss Eliza Miller, who was born and reared on this farm, and they immediately settled here. Her parents were Abraham and Sallie (Bashore) Miller, the latter of whom was born in Virginia, and died in 1895. Abraham Miller was born on what was then included in this farm but had been portioned off into another farm, and spent his whole life here, dying in 1899. Mr. and Mrs. Brandt have five children, namely: Arthur, Clarence, Fern, Alta and Alma, the two last named being twins. Mr. Brandt and family are members of the Brethren Church.

WILLIAM KELLER, a well known citizen of Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio, is owner of the old Moses Wise farm of 119 acres, located just north of Bradford. At the time he purchased it some five years ago, it consisted of 123 acres, four acres having since been sold off in town lots.

Mr. Keller was born six miles from York, in York County, Pennsylvania, June 20, 1867, and is a son of Jacob and Mary (Wanbaugh) Keller, both of whom were born and raised in York County. He was reared on a farm and always engaged in agricultural pursuits; he became the owner of a farm of 137 acres in his native county, on which he lived until he sold out and moved to Miami County, Ohio, arriving February 18, 1904. He has a good home and a well improved farm, the land being devoted to general farming. He also is engaged in dairying, keeping an average of about twelve cows. Since the purchase of his present place he has twice lost his barn by fire. The barn which stood on the farm at his coming took fire from a threshing-engine on August 9, 1904, and was destroyed. It was almost immediately replaced by a new one, the dimensions of which were 40x80 feet. This too was burned, November 24, 1907, and a new one of equal size was erected in its place.

Mr. Keller was married in York County, Pennsylvania, to Miss Ameda Baker, who was a native there, and they have reared five children, Aaron, Mary, Jacob, Ruth and Florence. He is a man of exceptional business capacity, and through close application to work and careful investment, has prospered.

GEORGE O. SIMMONS, a substantial and representative citizen of Brown Township, Miami County, Ohio, is the owner of a farm of seventy-six acres, located just west of the village of Fletcher. He was born in that township in 1866, and is a son of Charles and Phoebe (Reeder) Simmons, both natives of Miami County.

Charles Simmons was born on the farm on which the subject of this record now lives, and was a son of Peter Simmons, who came to Miami County at a very early period and settled on that farm. Charles followed agriculture here throughout his active period and died on the homestead in 1884. He was married to Phoebe Reeder and they became parents of a large family, fourteen in number.

George O. Simmons was educated in the public schools of Brown Township, and from boyhood assisted in the work on the farm. He farmed the home until his marriage and seven years after, then for a period of seven years owned a farm in Brown Township, which he sold in 1908. In the spring of 1909 he purchased his present farm of seventy-six acres, which he devotes to general agriculture. He is a man of substantial worth and has been active in the affairs of the community; he has served a number of years on the School Board, and has three times been honored with election as township trustee. Mr. Simmons was united in marriage with Miss Louella Giesseman, a daughter of William Giesseman, of Miami County, and they have three children, namely: Edgar, who assists in running the home farm; Raymond; and Kathryn. Politically Mr. Simmons is a Democrat. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias at Fletcher.

DAVID D. YOUNG, who is engaged in general farming in Elizabeth Township, Miami County, owns 205 acres, which are situated in Section 13, and he is one of the Township's representative men. He was born June 22, 1827, in Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio, one mile north of Brandt, and is a son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Schroyer) Young.

The paternal grandfather was George Young, who lived at Boonesboro, Maryland, until after the death of his wife, when he came to Ohio and settled in Montgomery County, not far distant from Dayton. The grandparents on the maternal side were Jacob and Susan Schroyer, who lived two and a half miles north of Brandt, Ohio. The children of George Young, all of whom are deceased, were Daniel, Sarah, George, Benjamin, Hezekiah, Margaret and Lewis.

In 1826 the parents of Mr. Young were married and took up their residence in Miami County. They had a family of six children, as follows: David D., subject of this sketch; Louisa, who married Joseph Rudy, of Bethel Township; Susan, who married Samuel Kingore, of Donnelsville, Clark County; Sarah Elizabeth, who died in childhood; Benjamin Franklin; and Mary H., wife of H. E. Hawver, of Tippecanoe.

David D. Young was taught his first lessons by his great grandmother, in the house in which he was born. When he grew older he was sent to the Hickory Grove School and still later to the Hughs School, which is now known as the Center School in Bethel Township. Being the eldest in the family he early became very useful to his father on the farm and continued to work for him until he was over thirty years of age. Mr. Young's memory goes far back and he can remember many interesting things about the early settlements through this part of Ohio and of the customs and ways of living. He recalls a little walking trip he once had in early manhood, when he drove a cow all the way from Bethel Township to Cincinnati. The distance was sixty-five miles, mainly through the woods and sparsely settled regions. When he reached the village of Dayton he was quite ready to rest and partake of a substantial meal at a public house. He remembers how much amusement was caused when the innkeeper offered to bring around the guest's horse when the time for departure came and Mr. Young replied, "My horse has two horns and is generally called a cow."

After his marriage in 1857, Mr. Young settled on a farm of thirty-five acres which he owned in Bethel Township, two and a half miles north of Brandt, and continued to cultivate his land there until the outbreak of the Civil War. He then went into the army, enlisting in Company A, 147th Regiment, O. V. I., in which he served for 100 days, afterwards returning to peaceful pursuits. For a short time he resumed farming in Bethel Township and then moved to his mother-in-law's farm, which was situated north of Tadmor, in Miami County, and remained there for seven years. Mr. Young then removed to Tippecanoe City and was there engaged in a grocery business for four years; when he sold out to return to the country he purchased his present fine farm of 205 acres. At that time a frame stable and log house stood on the place, but they were later destroyed by fire and the present substantial structures were built by Mr. Young. This place has been his home since March 9, 1875. The Tippecanoe City and the Carlisle Turnpike roads give easy means of travel in any direction, and are very different from the wood paths by which Mr. Young once made his way to Cincinnati.

On September 30, 1857, Mr. Young was united in marriage with Miss Henrietta D'Long, a daughter of George and Elizabeth D'Long. He and his wife have been the parents of four children, namely: George D., Ada Arkansas, David Franklin and Sarah.

David Franklin died in infancy. Sarah died November 30, 1884. George D., who married Elizabeth, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth Zile, has seven children—Mary Etta, Harry Edward, Albert David, Ada Belle, Jacob William, Sarah Aletha and George Hilton; Ada Arkansas, who married John C. Drake, of Piqua, Ohio, has one son, John C.

Mrs. Henrietta D'Long Young was born January 1, 1831, in Miami County, Ohio, and died at the home of her son, George W. Young, in same county, April 15, 1909, aged seventy-eight years, three months and fourteen days. She was converted in early life and joined the German Reformed church. About twenty years ago she became a member of the Cove Springs Christian church and remained a consistent member until death. At her funeral services a sermon was preached from a text of her own selection. She was a woman highly esteemed by her neighbors and dearly loved by all the members of her family.

Mr. Young is a member of the Christian church at Cove Springs. He is Republican in his political views but has never been willing to accept office. He has passed all the chairs in the local lodge of Odd Fellows but is no longer active in the order.

JOE F. COPPOCK, who, in partnership with W. O. Pattey, operates the largest grain elevator between Pittsburg and Indianapolis, at Fletcher, Ohio, was born in Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, in 1868, and is a son of Allen and Maria E. (Furnace) Coppock.

Allen Coppock, now a most highly esteemed retired citizen of Pleasant Hill, is a veteran of the Civil War, in which he served with honor. The greater part of his life was spent on his property in Newton Township, where he still owns a farm of 120 acres. He married Maria E. Furnace, who is a sister of B. E. Furnace, county auditor, and they reared a family of nine children.

Joe F. Coppock was reared on the home farm and educated in the public schools. He engaged in farming until 1896 and then started into the grain business at Ludlow Falls, with Myers, Pattey & Company, and continued there until 1900, when, in partnership with W. O. Pattey, the present elevator business was started. In April, 1903, the first elevator at Fletcher was burned, but in the same year the present fine structure was put up, which is practically fire-proof, the walls being covered with galvanized iron. It is the most modern and best equipped elevator in this section of the country and is located on the Panhandle Railroad, on the border of Fletcher. Its capacity is 80,000 bushels. The property is the possession of Joe F.

Coppock and W. O. Pattey and Mr. Coppock is general manager of the business.

Mr. Coppock married Miss Ida Mohler and they have one daughter, Josephine. He is a member of the Society of Friends. In politics he is a Republican but never has been willing to accept office. Fraternally he is associated with the Masons and the Knights of Pythias. Mr. Coppock is one of the county's most enterprising and active business men.

ELWOOD M. DAVIS, who is an enterprising farmer of Newton Township, owning a good sixty-acre farm, was born on his present property, April 11, 1859, the son of Jonathan and Eleanor C. (Jones) Davis. The father, Jonathan Davis, was born in Miami County, and spent his life here engaged in farming. His wife, Eleanor, mother of the subject of this sketch, was a native of Orange County, Indiana. Both parents are now deceased. Their family numbered the following children: Albert, who is now deceased; Eliza, who married John Coat and resides in Miami County; William, deceased; Amanda, who married Anson Hildebrand and lives in Miami County; Mary, now deceased, who married Amos Brandon, who was captain of a company in the Civil War; and Elwood M., who was the youngest of his parents' children.

Elwood M. Davis, after completing his school studies, turned his attention to agriculture and subsequently purchased the home farm from his father. He has improved the property by building an addition to the residence as well as a new barn. Besides general farming he raises tobacco and potatoes, these two latter branches of his work being specialties with him. He has about ten acres in tobacco and from eight to ten acres planted with potatoes each year, and as he is a good practical farmer, his crops are usually plentiful and of excellent quality.

On October 15, 1880, Mr. Davis was united in marriage with Florence Teeter, daughter of Elias and Susannah (Moore) Teeter, who were farming people of Miami County. Mrs. Davis's father is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Davis are the parents of children as follows: Nellie Zolo married Elmer Cool; they live in Dayton and have two children—Lenora and Lowell. Glenn is an engineer, residing at Dayton. Jessie is attending the Pleasant Hill High School. Wilma, the youngest child, is attending the Pattytown School in Newton Township.

Mr. Davis is a Republican in his political views. He has served the township as school director and as pike superintendent. He is a member of the Friends' church. Mrs. Davis, who was a school teacher in Miami County prior to her marriage, belongs to the Progressive Brethren Church of Pleasant Hill.

THE WOOD SHOVEL & TOOL COMPANY, of Piqua, is one of the city's prosperous and important business enterprises. Its establishment dates from June, 1902, and it was incorporated under the laws of the State of Ohio, with a large investment of capital. Its officers are: H. K. Wood, president; S. S. Gould, vice-president; and William W. Wood, secretary. The main office is maintained at Piqua, with factories at the same place, while the following cities have branch offices: New York, Chicago, St. Louis, Louisville, Denver, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland and Mexico City.

The scope of manufacturing covers everything in the way of shovels, scoops, draining tools, etc. The plant's dimensions are 62 by 300 feet and they occupy about 25,000 square feet of floor space. Employment is afforded some eighty men in the works and eight traveling men cover the United States, while for exports representatives are kept in England, Switzerland, Sweden, Australia, Mexico and Central America. To achieve success in pushing and maintaining a business of such large proportions, men of great ability and force, strong and self reliant, practical and experienced are required and these have been secured for this enterprise.

H. K. Wood, president of the Wood Shovel & Tool Company, was born in 1847, in Miami County, Ohio, a son of William W. Wood, who was born in Hollis, New Hampshire, and was a representative of a family that came to New England from Amesbury, England, in 1638. William W. Wood became one of the pioneer manufacturers of Miami County and as such brought the first car of coal to Piqua. He was prominent in all the early public affairs of the county, and was the first president of its board of education and took upon himself many of the early responsibilities which brought subsequent good to his fellow citizens. In 1850 he made the overland trip to California, by ox team, returning in 1852 by way of Nicaragua. For many years he controlled the cooperage business in this section. For thirty-one years, with his son, he was engaged in the linseed oil business. He married Caroline Kirk, who was born in Ohio, a daughter of William Kirk, and they had four children, only two of whom lived to maturity, H. K. and William Albert. The latter was engaged for many years in the wholesale tobacco business at St. Louis, and died in California, in September, 1881. The death of William W. Wood occurred in 1905, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years, his birth having taken place in 1817. On both sides he had come from Revolutionary ancestry.

H. K. Wood was married on September 6, 1873, to Miss Frances Adelaide Wilson. Her father was Judge William Martin Wilson, a very prominent man, and her mother was a daughter of Judge Dorsey, who was the first treasurer of Miami University. Mr. and Mrs. Wood have one son, W. W. Wood, 3d, who is treasurer and secretary of the Wood Shovel & Tool Company. Mr. Wood is a member of the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he is a steward. In the early history of the Y. M. C. A. he was its president, and he was chairman of the building committee when the present building was erected. For eighteen years he was president and general manager of the Piqua Electrical Company, and he is vice-president and a member of the board of directors of the Piqua National Bank. He has served on many civic boards and has belonged to numerous commissions appointed for the general welfare. He is a Thirty-second Degree Mason and belongs also to the Piqua Club and to the Sons of the American Revolution.

A. C. CARROLL, who conducts the largest general store in Laura, Union Township, was born in this township, January 25, 1855, son of James and Barbara (Pippinger) Carroll. The father, James Carroll, was born in Maryland, and was a butcher by trade. He came to this section when young, settling on a farm, where he resided for a while. Most of his time was spent in Georgia, however, where he died at the age of thirty-six years. His wife, Barbara, was from Preble County, Ohio. She bore her husband six children, namely: Vanade and Minerva, who died when young; A. C., the subject of this sketch; Albert, Orlando and Oliver.

A. C. Carroll received his education in the schools of this township. He learned the butcher's trade under his father and also worked for some time as a clerk. In 1895 he started in business for himself at his present location, where he carries on a general mercantile business, his stock including hardware. He owns his commodious store, which is located in a favorable position on Main Street and is well patronized by the people of the village and the surrounding country. He has always adhered to strictly honest methods in his business transactions and has thus gained the confidence of the people, who know they can depend upon him to treat them fairly.

In politics Mr. Carroll is a Republican. He belongs to the Christian Church and was formerly a member of the Junior Order of American Mechanics. December 28, 1886, he married Lyda Ditmer, and they have been parents of four children—Bertha; one that died in infancy; Clyde, who assists his father in the store; and Marie. The family are among the substantial and respected residents of the village of Laura.

E. S. MOHLER, secretary of the Covington Building and Loan Association, at Covington, is engaged in a general fire insurance and real estate business and is a representative and valued citizen. He was born in Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, September 15, 1860, and is a son of Ephraim and Anna (Nill) Mohler. The parents of Mr. Mohler were residents of Newton Township until 1890, when they left the farm and came to Covington, subsequently removing to Missouri, where both died.

E. S. Mohler resided on the home farm until he was twenty-four years of age. He secured a public school education and afterward made practical use of the same, for some twenty years following teaching as a profession. When he came to Covington he embarked in his present business and since the fall of 1899 has been connected with the Covington Building and Loan Association, succeeding John Ullery in the office of secretary. This is a very flourishing organization and receives the support of the leading business men of the place.

Mr. Mohler married Miss Alice Cable, now deceased, who is survived by four children, Blanche, Roger, Homer and Ada. Mr. Mohler is social in his nature and is identified with the Masons, the Odd Fellows and the Ancient and Honored Order of Gobblers. He is not a zealous politician, but he takes an active interest in the development of local enterprises and in movements tending to add to the importance of Covington.

AARON H. DEETER, one of Newton Township's substantial citizens, a stockholder in both the Stillwater and the Pleasant Hill Banks, carries on farming on twenty-nine acres, which he has improved and lived on since 1874. He was born April 13, 1847, in Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of Daniel H. and Mary Ann (Hoke) Deeter.

The Deeter family was a pioneer one in Newton Township, where Daniel H., father of Aaron H., was born, not far from the Stillwater River, July 25, 1816. He improved land when he reached man's estate and became a substantial citizen. He married Mary Ann Hoke, a daughter of David Hoke, and they had four children: Elizabeth, Cornelius H., Aaron H. and Joseph. They were members of the German Baptist Church. They died about four years ago and now rest in Sugar Grove Cemetery.

Aaron H. Deeter remained at home until his marriage and obtained his education in the common schools of Newton Township and the High School at Pleasant Hill, attending the latter institution for two years. Following his marriage he resided for two years on his father-in-law's farm and two years on his father's place and then came to his present place, containing twenty-nine acres, ten of which he has only a life lease on, that portion belonging to his children. He erected all the farm buildings and put in 400 rods of tile, thus insuring excellent drainage, and cleared about eight acres after settling here. He devotes about six acres each to tobacco, clover, corn, potatoes and oats. Mr. Deeter also owns land in Kansas, a fine farm of 160 acres situated in Garfield Township, Norton County. He has also done much county and township contract work, public roads and ditches during the years that have elapsed since 1868.

Mr. Deeter was married April 25, 1868, to Miss Angeline Myers, a daughter of David Myers, and the following children were born to them: Jody, who married George Martin, and has eight children, the names of three of which are Ida, Harry and Mabel; a babe that died; Pearl, who married Oliver Snowberger and has two children, Glenn and Joice; Zelda, who married William Speagh and has two children, Lewis and Herbert; and Mazie, who married Albert Fritz and has one child, Etoil. The mother of these children died April 6, 1884, and her burial was in the Covington Cemetery.

Mr. Deeter is a Republican in politics and has been an active and useful citizen. For twenty-nine years he has been a member of the Newton Township School Board, and for five years served as township trustee. He is one of the members of the German Baptist Church in this section.

CHARLES E. NEWMAN, of Laura, Union Township, who, in partnership with H. E. Ehler, operates a well appointed general store at the corner of Main Street and the Arcanum Pike, was born in Dayton in 1849—on April 9th—and is a son of Daniel and Mary Ann (Soule) Newman.

Daniel Newman, the father, was born in Connecticut, but subsequently removing west, followed the trade of shoemaker at Dayton, Ohio, for a number of years. He later removed to Milton and still later to Laura, this county; then to Henry County, Indiana, and was in the butcher business. He was killed on the Panhandle Railway, March 19, 1880. He was a Civil War veteran, enlisting in April, 1861, in the Eleventh Ohio Regiment for the three months' service. He subsequently re-entered the service for three years at Camp Denison. Again he went out in the fall of 1864 as a substitute for one year, his service lasting in all some four years and five months.

J. W. MORRIS

His second enlistment was also in the Eleventh Ohio Regiment and his last in the Forty-seventh Ohio. He accompanied Sherman on his march to Atlanta and the sea, and saw plenty of fighting, being once wounded. Though possessing an excellent military record, he never received a pension nor has his widow and children ever profited by Government aid. He married Mary Ann Soule and their children numbered three sons and two daughters, of whom there are three now living.

Charles E. Newman received his education in the district schools of Miami County. When he began to be self-supporting he first followed farming for a while and afterwards engaged in the butcher business in Indiana in partnership with his father. Then returning to Ohio, he went into the flour and feed business and so continued until 1904, when in company with his son-in-law, L. E. Coate, he engaged in his present business at a neighboring location. He later removed to his present more commodious quarters in the village of Laura, taking as a new partner Mr. H. E. Ehler. They carry a full line of all the usual commodities in demand in an agricultural community. They sell the J. Ellwood fence and have handled as many as twenty-five carloads of fence and posts at one time. Their stock also includes a fine line of shoes and dry goods.

Mr. Newman, our subject, married Esther Ann Hildebran, a daughter of John H. Hildebran, of Miami County, and their family has numbered eleven children, as follows: Ollie, who became the wife of I. N. Long and resides at Stillwater, Ohio; John, who resides with his parents; Alta, who married L. E. Coate and lives in Ellwood, Nebraska; Ora, residing at home; Walter, who married a Miss Hall and lives in this township; Lillie, who is the wife of H. E. Ehler; Raymond, residing at home; Carrie, who married Warren Fasick of this county; Harley, a blind son, who lives at home with his parents; Bessie, also residing at home, and one that died in infancy.

Politically Mr. Newman is a Republican. He has served one term as justice of the peace in Newton Township, but otherwise has not devoted much time to public office. He served three years in the Third Regiment, Ohio National Guards. He is numbered among the township's best citizens, and his opinions on matters affecting the public weal are always based on sound judgment and meet with due consideration from his fellow citizens.

J. W. MORRIS, for many years mayor of the city of Troy, Ohio, is a lawyer by profession and is the head of the Enterprise Foundry Company. He comes of an old and prominent family of Troy, where he was born in 1840. J. W. Morris is a son of Charles Morris, who for many years was a distinguished lawyer of Troy. The latter was born in New York City, and was but a child when in 1813 his parents moved with him to Troy. Here he was reared to maturity and educated, and after a careful preliminary training began the practice of law here. He met with exceptional success in practice, and also attained considerable prominence in politics. He was a delegate to the Republican National Convention at Philadelphia, which chose John C. Fremont as the first Republican candidate for the presidency.

J. W. Morris has always been a resident of Troy. He attended the public schools of the city, and afterwards completed a course in Miami University at Oxford, Ohio, from which he was graduated in 1861. He was soon after admitted to the bar, but during the war was connected with the army, although not as a regularly enlisted soldier. After the close of the Civil War he opened an office for practice in Troy and gained an enviable prestige at the bar. He became very active in politics, and although a Democrat in a Republican county, was frequently honored with public office. Upon ten different occasions he was elected mayor of the city, his administration never failing to meet with public approval. He represented the district in the State Senate four years, and was made postmaster by President Cleveland, filling that office capably for nearly five years. He is owner of the Enterprise Foundry Company, manufacturers of gray iron castings, and the foundry is one of the large and important industries of the city.

Mr. Morris was in 1862 united in marriage with Miss Sully F. Poor of Cincinnati. They had one son, Charles W., who died in New York City in 1905, aged forty-four years. Mr. Morris is a member of the order of Elks, and enjoys great popularity among his fellow citizens.

A. W. FRENCH, president of the French Oil Mill Machinery Company, of Piqua, of which he was the organizer, is also interested in the Piqua Handle Manufacturing Company, and is one of the city's most representative business men. He was born and reared in Connecticut. From the public schools of his native place, Mr. French entered the Massachusetts School of Technology, at Boston, and was graduated there in the class of 1889, remaining in the school for two years longer as an instructor. Following this came three years of work in the employ of the Government and he was then connected in an official capacity with an engineer's office in Boston. Just prior to coming to Piqua he was connected with the National Linseed Oil Company.

The French Oil Mill Machinery Company, of Piqua, was organized and incorporated in 1900, with an authorized capital stock of $172,000, and with A. W. French as president; J. W. Brown, vice-president; and William Cook Rogers, secretary and treasurer. The business is the manufacture of oil-mill machinery. The plant is situated at No. 1014 West Ash Street, where a new building has recently been erected, with dimensions of 319 by 70 feet, two stories high, with perfect equipment, while the foundry is another large structure with dimensions of 75 by 80 feet. Employment is given from fifty to sixty men, and as the wages of these are mainly spent in Piqua, this plant contributes largely to the city's commercial prosperity. The machinery produced by this plant is protected by patents and it includes automatic change valves, cake trimmers, cake packers, continuous cookers, Faherty cylinder knives, accumulators, cake formers, as well as presses, power pumps, rolls, hullers, etc., these machines representing the highest standard of perfection in workmanship and material. Although the company has been operating for only a comparatively short time, it has placed its machinery in mills all over the United States, in Canada, Great Britain, Germany and Norway, and keeps representatives at many other points.

NATHANIEL KEISER, owner of a fine farm of 131 acres, upon which he lives and which is situated just north of Clayton, carries on general farming and meets with the success that results from a combination of industry, agricultural experience and fertile soil. Mr. Keiser was born December 11, 1862, on a farm in Shelby County, Ohio, and is a son of David and Mary (Rhodeheffer) Keiser.

The parents of Mr. Keiser were both born in Montgomery County, Ohio, where they were married and then moved to Shelby County. They had six children, namely: Mrs. Catherine Apple, William, Mrs. Lydia Ann McGreevy, Mrs. Margaret Isabel Voisard, Nathaniel and Mary Alice. David Keiser was a farmer in Shelby County, where he died in 1865. His widow survives and resides with her son Nathaniel.

Nathaniel Keiser grew to manhood in Shelby County and there obtained his education. He was only a child when his father died. When he reached manhood, he moved with his mother to Miami County and they rented a farm in Washington Township, near Piqua, for four years. He was married in 1895 and in the following year moved to a farm in Mercer County, containing eighty acres, and there he remained until he bought his present farm in Newberry Township, a property that formerly belonged to Samuel Crowel. Mr. Keiser then sold his Mercer County farm and in March, 1908, took possession of his present one.

On December 31, 1895, Mr. Keiser was married to Miss Anna Kimmes, a daughter of Philip and Mary (Winter) Kimmes, of Washington Township. Mrs. Keiser was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, but was reared in Miami County. Mr. and Mrs. Keiser have an interesting, intelligent family of five children, namely: Walter N., John F., Mary Magdalene, Gertrude Isabel and Barbara Alice. The older children attend school and enjoy many advantages that their father did not have in his youth.

DAVID DAVIS, a prosperous farmer residing one mile north of West Milton, Ohio, has 148 acres in his home farm and also is the owner of a fifty-acre tract situated one-half mile west of that place, both lying in Union Township. He was born in that township January 27, 1831, and is a son of Benjamin and Margaret (Wareham) Davis.

The paternal grandfather of the subject of this record was Abiather Davis, who was a native of Wales. Upon coming to the United States he first located in Georgia, and in 1802 made his way north to Miami County, Ohio, then to Elkton, Preble County, where he remained for two years. He later settled a section of land in Union Township, west of West Milton, Miami County, and there lived the remainder of his days, farming and following his trade as a carpenter.

Benjamin Davis was about ten years old at the time his parents came to Union Township, and here he was reared to maturity, undergoing the hardships of pioneer life. He always followed farming and acquired 240 acres of land in Miami County, the most of which he cleared and improved. In 1856 he sold his farm and went to Iowa, where he purchased 300 acres. He was in Iowa at the time of his death, which occurred at the age of eighty-four years. He married Margaret (Wareham) Fetters, of Pennsylvania, and they became parents of eleven children. Her death occurred at the age of forty-nine years.

David Davis, after completing his education in the schools of West Milton, took up the occupation of a farmer. He worked for his father until he became of age, and thereafter worked for himself with all the energy and thrift characteristic of the Welsh race. On his home farm he erected one of the largest residences in the vicinity, it being occupied by his son, who farms the place, and he also made most of the other improvements now on this farm. After many years of unceasing activity, he is now practically retired to enjoy the fruits of his toil. He is fond of travel and spends most of his winters in Florida to escape the severity of the northern climate.

Mr. Davis was first married to Miss Anna Mote, whose death occurred in 1891, and they became parents of five children, as follows: J. O. Davis, of Troy, Ohio; Lambert, deceased; J. Warren, who lives on the home place; Laura, of Dayton, Ohio; and Mary, who lives at Springfield, Ohio. He formed a second union with Miss Mary Kelly. Mr. Davis is a Republican in politics and served as a member of the school board for a number of years.

THE COVINGTON WOOLEN MILLS, which are owned and operated by W. J. and C. E. Lewis, is the leading industry of Covington, and was established in about 1850 by William Van Gorden, the mill which then stood on the site of the present mills having burned in 1852.

Alfred J. Lewis, father of W. T. and C. E., was born near Richmond, Indiana, reared in Hillsboro, and in January, 1865, came with his stepfather, Samuel Nixon, a native of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, to Covington and purchased the Covington Mills, which have since that time been owned and operated by the Lewis family. Alfred J. Lewis married Barbara Ruppert, a native of Bavaria, Germany, who came to this country when eight years old with her parents, who located on a farm near Pleasant Hill, Miami County, Ohio. Two children blessed their union—W. J. and C. E. Lewis, proprietors of the Covington Woolen Mills, both of whom were born in the house now occupied by W. J. Lewis. Mrs. Lewis died September 5, 1908. W. J. Lewis married Susie Grove and has two children, Alfred J. and Ruth M. C. E. Lewis was united in marriage with Carry Byrd and their union resulted in the birth of two children, Waldo and Helen Jeanette.

After the death of their father, W. J. and C. E. Lewis, then aged seventeen and fifteen respectively, took charge of the mills, which they have since that time operated with uninterrupted success. They employ an average of fifteen hands and make a specialty of all fine wool blankets, the quality and durability of their goods finding them a ready market all over the United States.

THE ATLAS UNDERWEAR COMPANY. This splendid plant is located on three streets, facing on Downing Street and runs along Rundle Avenue to Wayne Street. The building is 300 feet long, has an extreme width of 110 feet and is four stories high in addition to a fine basement. It is a counterpart of one of the buildings of the National Cash Register Company and is built of concrete and first quality of buff pressed brick and is especially planned for the wants and requirements of the underwear business. It is unquestionably the best planned and handsomest underwear plant in the country and is the largest plant in the world devoted exclusively to the manufacture of union suits. The total floor space exceeds 150,000 square feet. It is thoroughly equipped with all the latest up-to-date machinery and has many conveniences for the employees, including a rest and recreation room and a dining room. The general construction of the plant was designed with the idea of giving the many employees the most comfortable working quarters. The business was established in 1899 and the officers are as follows: President, L. M. Flesh; vice-president, Gen. W. P. Orr; secretary, H. E. Sims; treasurer, E. A. Todd.

C. S. PETRY, who in association with Mr. S. L. Brumbaugh conducts the largest hardware business in West Milton, Miami County, Ohio, is a native of Darke County, Ohio, where he was born in 1869. He is a son of Michael M. and Kate N. (Stump) Petry, and is one of twelve children born to his parents. Michael M. Petry was born in Preble County, Ohio, but later was a resident of Darke County, Ohio, for some years. He returned to Preble County when his son, C. S. Petry, was seven years of age, and there lived until his death at the age of sixty-three years.

C. S. Petry received his education in the public schools of Preble County, and at Mount Morris College, where he attended one year. Upon leaving school he taught for two years, then in partnership with his brothers engaged in the tile business. He was twenty-seven years old when he came to Miami County, and in connection with Mr. Brumbaugh embarked in the hardware business. In 1899 they located where the postoffice now is, but in 1901 moved to their present location because more commodious quarters were necessary for their rapidly growing business. They carry a full line of general hardware, tinware, stoves and acetylene apparatus, and occupy two stories and the basement. Both he and his partner are stockholders in the Gem City Acetylene Generator Company, of which Mr. Brumbaugh's brother is manager. The company is incorporated at $100,000 and owns property at Dayton valued at $25,000. The Gem City Acetylene Generator, which can be placed in any residence or business house, is a great improvement over the gasoline plants and can be operated at a less cost; this fact has given a great impetus to the company's business, which never was in a more flourishing condition.

Mr. Petry was united in marriage with Miss Alma Flory, of near Center, Ohio, and they have four children: Flora, Naomi, Wilbur and Ruth. Politically, he is a Prohibitionist. In religious attachment, he and his wife are members of the Church of the Brethren.

JOHN ZIMMERMAN, who is engaged in farming in Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, is the owner of a forty-acre farm located in Section 24 of that township. He was born in Butler Township, Montgomery County, Ohio, October 28, 1858, and is a son of Charles and Sophia (Trost) Zimmerman, both natives of Wittenberg, Germany.

After his marriage, Charles Zimmerman came to the United States and first located at Dayton, Ohio, where he worked by the day for about three years. He then engaged in farming in Montgomery County for several years, after which he moved to Miami County. Here he purchased a farm of eighty acres in Newton Township, where he lived and farmed the remainder of his days. He was also the owner of forty acres northwest of the home place, which he subsequently sold. Charles and Sophia (Trost) Zimmerman became parents of the following children: Charles, Henry and Fred (twins), Katherine, Joseph, John, Samuel, Margaret, Mary and Emma.

John Zimmerman attended what was known as the Quaker School in Butler Township, later the Inglewood School, and finally the Fall Branch School in Newton Township, receiving a good common school education. He continued to work for his father until he reached the age of twenty years, when he began working by the month for William Shoultz. Returning home, he worked one summer by the month, and farmed on one-third share for two years. He worked on a farm near Troy two years, and served for a similar period as helper on a thresher. After his marriage in 1887, he was for a time located on his father's farm and then went to Darke County, where he rented and farmed for eight years. At the end of that time he returned to Miami County and lived four years on the Fink farm. He then farmed the forty-acre tract owned by his father for two years, at the end of which time he purchased his present farm from his father. There were but one and a half acres of timber on the place and this he cleared, and he also put in about 500 rods of tile for drainage. He erected all the buildings on the place and has a well improved and fertile farm. He follows general farming and has about three acres out in tobacco each year. He is classed with the substantial citizens of Newton Township and is one of the stockholders of the Stillwater Valley Bank of Covington. Politically, he is a Democrat and for several years served on the School Board.

June 16, 1887, Mr. Zimmerman married Sarah Luella Jennings, a daughter of William and Sarah Ann (Kern) Jennings, and they have had two children—Franklin Ray, who lives on the home place; and one who died unnamed. Religiously, they are members of the Christian Church of Pleasant Hill.

ALONZO HARTLEY, proprietor of the Hillside Nurseries and owner of 1,300 acres of farm land, together with a large amount of valuable city realty, has been a resident of Troy for thirty-six years and is a notable type of the self-made business man. He was born in the village of Allentown, Allen County, Ohio, August 1, 1850, and at the age of ten years accompanied his parents to Columbus Grove, Putnam County, where he obtained his schooling. Mr. Hartley learned the tinners' trade at Columbus Grove. Beginning January 1, 1869, he served three years' apprenticeship. During the first year his salary was $36.00 per year; during the second, $50.00, and for the third year's work he received $75.00. In 1873 he entered into the hardware business at Troy and was so engaged for three years. He first engaged in the tree business in 1883, in the capacity of salesman, and became so interested in this line that he decided to embark in the nursery business for himself. In 1903 he established the Hillside Nurseries, having a plant at Casstown and also one at Troy. At present his Troy plant has a cellar with dimensions of 33 by 63 feet, while a second one is in course of construction, the dimensions of which will be 86 by 105 feet. Mr. Hartley has been an unusually successful business man and this success must be attributed to his own efforts and the possession of natural good judgment and foresight. He says that when he came to Troy it was on borrowed money, and now, in addition to his large business interests, he owns large tracts of land in the farming districts and pays city taxes on thirty-three town lots.

In 1874 Mr. Hartley was married to Miss Lizzie M. Lewis, a daughter of Edmond Lewis, of Casstown. Mrs. Hartley died March 16, 1904, leaving three children —Mary Lizzie, Alonzo Lewis and Ruth. Mr. Hartley is a Knight Templar Mason and is also a member of the Odd Fellows. Alonzo Lewis Hartley married Lina Yount, June 15, 1904, and they have one daughter, Elizabeth Kyle. They live in Troy.

B. J. FORD, who conducts the only drug store in West Milton, Miami County, Ohio, is an enterprising and progressive business man and commands a large trade. He was born in West Manchester, Preble County, Ohio, October 15, 1878, and is a son of Orlando and Margaret (Studebaker) Ford.

Orlando Ford, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Greene County, Ohio, and in early life learned the trade of a brick mason. He later followed this trade in Preble County, whither he moved, and his home continued there until his death at the age of fifty-nine years. He married Margaret Studebaker, and they became parents of two children: Aldus, who is deceased; and B. J. Ford.

B. J. Ford attended the public schools of his native county, after which he worked in a drug store for a time. He then entered Ohio Northern University at Ada, Ohio, and completed a two-year course in pharmacy. On November 9, 1899, he purchased the store in West Milton of which he is now proprietor; he carries a complete line of drugs and wall paper and enjoys the patronage of the people for many miles surrounding the village. The store is located on Miami Street. Mr. Ford was united in marriage with Miss Sylvia Davis, of Preble County, and they have one son, Byron, who is attending the public schools. Politically, he is a Democrat. In fraternal affiliation, he is a Mason, an Odd Fellow and a Pythian Knight.

JOHN ODA, a leading agriculturist of Washington Township, Miami County, Ohio, has a well improved farm of fifty acres located about three and one-half miles southwest of Piqua. He was born near Dayton, Ohio, November 22, 1858, and is a son of Frederick and Louisa (Trost) Oda. His parents were natives of Germany and were married prior to their removal to the United States. They located on a farm in Montgomery County, Ohio.

John Oda was reared on the home farm in Montgomery County, and at the age of nineteen years moved to Darke County, Ohio. There he engaged in farming a short time, then moved to a farm near Covington, in Miami County. He later sold his farm there and in 1902 purchased his present excellent property of fifty acres. He remodeled the brick house on the place and now has one of the best improved farms in that locality. Mr. Oda was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth R. Wolf, a daughter of Ephraim Wolf, and they have two children, namely: Minnie C. and Russel C. Religiously, they are members of the Lutheran Church of Piqua, of which he is an elder.

JOHN E. BILLINGSLEY, owner of eighty acres of excellent farm land, which is situated two miles east of Covington, on the old Covington-Piqua Road, on the Washington Township line, in Newberry Township, has always lived on this farm, on which he was born, June 28, 1850. His parents were Thomas and Mary E. (Luckey) Billingsley.

Thomas Billingsley was born in 1823, near Cincinnati, Ohio, and was a boy of nine years when his father came to this county, April 5, 1832, and settled in the woods. At that time, Grandfather John Billingsley was an old man, being then seventy-five years of age, but it is said of him that he was still so vigorous that he bore hardships better and did more work than any of his sons. He lived to be ninety-seven years of age. His wife was also of the old type of women, strong and courageous, and she lived to be ninety-five years of age. Thomas Billingsley followed farming all his life and died on the old homestead on November 8, 1886. He married Mary E. Luckey, who was born in Athens County, Ohio. Her father was John Luckey, who brought his family to Washington Township, Miami County, in her girlhood.

John E. Billingsley was an only child and never had any occasion to leave the old farm, which came to him through inheritance. He has greatly improved it, having fine buildings and modern comforts. He carries on general farming and stock raising, making a specialty of fast horses. He keeps fourteen head of horses and raises fifty head of hogs yearly. Mr. Billingsley's agricultural methods are along modern lines and he proves on his own farm that the best grade of stock is the most profitable.

Mr. Billingsley married Miss Emma C. Harwood, who was born in the State of New York, and died here March 12, 1909. She was a daughter of Rev. John Harwood, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Billingsley is survived by three children, Thomas, Roy and Bert, the two younger sons residing at home. Thomas Billingsley, who is now city solicitor of Versailles, Darke County, and is a law partner with J. Guy O'Donnel, of Covington, was admitted to the bar in 1902 and is looked upon as one of the rising young men of his section. He spent two years in the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, and one year in the Ohio State University, at Columbus. He married Ottie Hartle and they have one child, Richard.

FRED SCHUESSELIN conducts the meat market of the firm of Charles F. Schuesselin & Sons at West Milton, and is a member of that firm, which also has a market at Pleasant Hill. He was born in Pleasant Hill, in 1885, and is a son of Charles F. and Louise (Staehlin) Schuesselin, both natives of Germany.

Charles F. Schuesselin was reared to maturity in his native land and learned the trade in Greenville, Ohio. He came to this country, in 1883, prior to his marriage, and located at Pleasant Hill, Miami

County, Ohio, where he began butchering. He was married at Dayton, Ohio, to Miss Louise Staehlin, and they became parents of six children, as follows: Fred; Albert; Emilie, deceased; Edward; Arthur; and Hermina. Mr. and Mrs. Schuesselin reside at Pleasant Hill.

Fred Schuesselin attended the public schools at Pleasant Hill, and afterward the Dayton Commercial College, where he completed a thorough business course. He then became a partner in the firm of Charles F. Schuesselin & Sons, and in 1908 came to West Milton and opened their present shop. They have a neat and attractive place of business, and as they slaughter all the meat that goes over the counter, the trade receives none but the best. They run one wagon from West Milton, another being run from Pleasant Hill, and also attend Piqua Market every Saturday, having a stand on the corner of Wayne and Market Streets. They have a full line of fresh meats there and have a regular trade built up.

Mr. Schuesselin was united in marriage with Miss Laudie Hunt, of Dayton, Ohio, and they have a comfortable home at West Milton. Religiously, they are members of the Christian Church. He is a Republican in politics. Fraternally, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

LEVI DIVENS, residing on a farm of eighty acres in Section 23, of Newton Township, is a progressive farmer and a well known citizen. He was born in Newton Township April 18, 1864, and is a son of Samuel and Mary (Switzer) Divens.

Samuel Divens was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, April 13, 1811. He came from Pennsylvania when a young man twenty-one years of age, and at the age of forty-nine years—September 16, 1860—he was married to Miss Mary Switzer and settled down in Newton Township, where he lived the remainder of his life. He died there April 17, 1885, and lies buried in Pleasant Hill Cemetery. He was a member of the German Baptist Church. In politics he was a Republican. His wife Mary was a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Konkle) Switzer, and they had three children, Ella, Levi and William. Mrs. Divens now resides at Pleasant Hill.

Levi Divens attended the Fairview School west of Pleasant Hill, and after leaving school farmed for his father until his marriage. He then located on the sixty-five-acre farm on which his father had lived, and continued to reside there for thirteen years. He and his wife then purchased the eighty-acre farm where they now live from Frank M. Blackmore. It is a well improved farm, provided with a good comfortable residence and other substantial buildings, and is under a high state of cultivation except four acres, which is still in timber. Mr. Divens is engaged in general farming and tobacco raising, having about eight acres devoted to the latter commodity each year.

October 1, 1891, Levi Divens was married to Huldah Mowery, a daughter of Martin L. and Elizabeth (Ullery) Mowery, and they have had seven children whose record in brief is as follows: May Virgil and Ray Virgin (twins) were born June 30, 1892. Ray Virgin died July 8, 1892, aged eight days; May Virgil died July 17, 1892, aged seventeen days. Leroy was born August 24, 1893, and died May 31, 1894, aged nine months and seven days. The living children are: Treva Blanche, Iva Pearl, Hazel Irene, Clarence Arthur, all of whom are attending the public school. Religiously, the family attends the Brethren Church. Politically, the subject of this sketch is a Republican.

CORTEZ M. SMITH, one of Troy's most enterprising and successful young business men, who has been identified with the horse and mule business for many years, was born in 1873, at Casstown, Ohio, and is a son of the late Martin P. Smith. The father of Mr. Smith was born in Maryland and came to the vicinity of Casstown, Ohio, in 1854, where he followed farming during his active years. He died in 1906.

Cortez M. Smith attended school at Casstown during boyhood and very early learned to depend entirely upon his own efforts to advance himself. He earned his first capital by working by the day and then traded for a time in Bantam chickens, which was the stepping-stone to his larger operations subsequently in the handling of horses and mules. This business he has carried on with much success and he now owns a fine farm of 190 acres in Miami county, besides improved property at Troy, including his own handsome residence on East Main Street. For some time, in addition to his horse and mule business, which he built up entirely by himself, he has been handling real estate, his excellent business qualifications being shown also in this line. Mr. Smith is entirely a self-made man and takes justifiable pride in the fact. In 1894 Mr. Smith was married to Miss Lucy E. Hathaway, and they have two sons, Carlton Clay and Melvin Frederick. Mr. Smith is a member of the Troy Club and the Troy Business Men's Association.

THOMAS L. DRAKE was a prominent farmer and respected citizen of Washington Township, Miami County, Ohio, and his death, which occurred November 7, 1897, was mourned as a loss to the community. He was born on the farm of 220 acres on which his widow now lives, August 23, 1847, and was a son of Daniel Drake, who was prominent among the early citizens of Washington Township.

Thomas L. Drake was reared and educated in Washington Township, and spent his entire life on the home farm. He attended the district schools and Piqua High School, leaving the latter institution six weeks before the time for him to graduate. He then taught school for two terms, after which he farmed the remainder of his life, meeting with a high degree of success. The farm consists of 220 acres and is located about two and one-half miles south of the Piqua postoffice. In 1893 he erected one of the finest brick houses in the township and the farm was maintained on the same high plane as to its other improvements.

April 4, 1878, Mr. Drake was united in marriage with Miss Jennie Knouff, a daughter of George and Lettie A. (McKlveen) Knouff. George Knouff was born in Pennsylvania and was a son of John Knouff, who died in the eastern part of Ohio. The father of Mrs. Drake was a young man when the family moved to Harrison County, Ohio, and after his marriage he came west to Miami County, Ohio, settling on a farm in Washington Township. Here he lived until his death on February 10, 1885, being survived by his widow, who passed away on October 3, 1893. Mrs. Knouff was born in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, and was a daughter of

THOMAS L. DRAKE

Thomas McKlveen, who came to this country from Ireland. Mrs. Drake was born in Harrison County, Ohio, and was ten years of age when her parents came to Miami County.

Mr. and Mrs. Drake had a son born to them, Forest, who died at the early age of nine months and seven days. Religiously he was a member of the Presbyterian Church, to which Mrs. Drake also belongs. She is a lady of refinement and excellent business qualifications, and has many friends in this community, in which she has lived since the early days of her life.

HENRY REHMERTH, a representative citizen and business man of Staunton Township, Miami County, Ohio, is the owner of a splendid farm of 189 acres. He was born in Prussia, Germany, January 5, 1845, and is a son of John Henry and Sophia (Dohm) Rehmerth, both natives of Germany.

John Henry Rehmerth learned the trade of a blacksmith when a young man and then engaged in making cutlery, principally knives, forks and files. Upon coming to the United States in 1853, he abandoned his trade and took up farming. Their voyage across the ocean consumed six weeks' time, and they passed another week at Dayton, Ohio, prior to becoming residents of Staunton Township, in Miami County. Here Mr. Rehmerth purchased a small place and farmed the remainder of his days, dying at the age of seventy-three years. He was twice married, his first union being with Henrietta Hidison, who died in Germany, leaving three children, as follows: Mary, wife of Charles Miller; Caroline, deceased wife of Henry Martin; and William. His second marriage was with Sophia Dohm, who survived her husband some years; they had two sons, Henry and Frederick.

Henry Rehmerth was a little past the age of eight years when brought by his parents to this country. He attended school one year in his native land and but one week in this country, but notwithstanding his limited training is a broad-minded and well informed man. He worked about home until he was fourteen, then worked out by the month. He was in the employ of Henry Eikmeier one year, of Henry Ladage two years, and of Benjamin Enyeart seven years. He turned his earnings over to his parents until he was twenty-one, after which he began saving his money. The earnings he saved during the first summer, together with $125 that he borrowed from John Farver, he invested in the rhubarb wine business in partnership with Mr. Enyeart. There proved to be no demand for their product and at the end of one year his entire capital was gone. He then continued to work out by the month until he was twenty-six, when he and his brothers began farming together. He had in the meantime saved about $500, with which, added to what his brothers could command, they purchased land in the southern part of Staunton Township. Industrious and ambitious, of frugal and saving habits, they prospered and added to their holdings until they were possessed of 450 acres of the most valuable land. They continued in association until 1899, when the land was divided, Henry Rehmerth receiving 189 acres as his share. He erected the home in which he now lives and made many improvements on the place. He may well take pride in the success he has attained, which came solely through his own efforts and the helping hand of his wife and sons.

December 21, 1871, Mr. Rehmerth was united in marriage with Miss Mary Horther, who was born in Butler County, Ohio, and is a daughter of Jacob and Margaret (Herzog) Horther. Three children were the issue of this union: William Jacob; Martin J., who married Emma McCool, January 13, 1904, and has one son, named Herbert; and George, who was married January 24, 1906, to Elsie Davis, who formerly was a teacher in the public schools. Religiously, the family is German Lutheran, and for twenty years Mr. Rehmerth served as a deacon of the church. He is a Republican in politics, and was at one time pike superintendent.

W. A. ZINK, well known as a prosperous business man of West Milton, is proprietor of the oldest meat market in the village and in addition deals quite extensively in live stock, hides and tallow. He was reared to the business, in which his father and his grandfather were engaged before him. Some of his mother's family also followed that occupation, his brothers all are butchers, and his sisters married butchers.

Mr. Zink was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, in 1873, and is a son of Josept and Mary (Gergens) Zink, being one of twelve children born to his parents, of whom ten are now living. Joseph Zink was born and reared in Montgomery County, Ohio, his father being the oldest butcher in that county. He started his market and conducted it some years, then moved to Vandalia, Ohio, where he conducted a market one year. About the year 1888 he became a resident of West Milton and actively continued butchering here until 1907, since which time he has led a retired life.

W. A. Zink attended the public schools at West Milton, and from his boyhood days has been identified with the butchering business. In 1902 he purchased the shop of his father and has since continued with great success. He has a new cement front building under course of construction, adjoining the postoffice, and when completed it will be one of the most up-to-date buildings of the place, and a credit to the town. He has a large and well established trade, running two wagons and giving employment to three men. He is a man of hustle and enterprise, and is exceedingly popular among his fellow citizens. Mr. Zink was united in marriage with Lora Iddings, a daughter of William Iddings, of Ludlow Falls, and they became parents of two children, Oneda and Harold. Politically, he is a Democrat.

WILLIAM JACOB REHMERTH, son of Henry and Mary (Horther) Rehmerth, was born in Staunton Township, January 19, 1875, and received his education in the public schools. He assisted his father on the farm from the time he was quite young, and for the past nine years has carried on the operations thereon. He has always evinced a deep interest in political affairs and been a consistent supporter of Republican principles. He made an unsuccessful campaign for the office of township assessor, but at the succeeding election was elected to that office and served one term. In 1905 he was appointed township trustee to fill the unexpired term of Joseph West, who moved away, and in November, 1907, was elected to that office. His colleagues in office are Democrats. He was appointed as a member of the Board of Education to fill the unexpired term of E. B. Duncan. Religiously, he is a member of the German Lutheran Church.

WILLIAM W. WOOD, who is secretary and treasurer of the Wood Shovel & Tool Company, of Piqua, Ohio, was born in this city in March, 1878, and is a son of H. K. and a grandson of William Webster Wood.

The Wood family is an old colonial one that came to New England from England in 1637 and established itself in New Hampshire. William Webster Wood, the grandfather of William W., came from Hollis, New Hampshire, to Piqua, Ohio, in 1837, and shortly afterward the father of William W. Wood was born, the latter being in the third generation of the family in this city.

William W. Wood went from the Piqua High School to Phillips Academy, at Exeter, New Hampshire, where he was graduated in the class of 1898. When he returned home he went to work for the Piqua Electric Company, remaining until December, 1899, and then entered the employ of the Philadelphia Clay Manufacturing Company, at Carlisle, Pennsylvania. Two years later he retired from that company and came back to Piqua and soon afterward was one of the incorporators of the Wood Shovel & Tool Company, of which he continues to be secretary and treasurer. The industry is one of importance and Mr. Wood possesses the energy and enterprise to make it a leading one of this section.

In politics, Mr. Wood is an ardent Republican and stands very high in the councils of his party. He is chairman of the Republican County Central and County Executive Committees and possesses the tact and diplomacy which are so necessary to make these offices effective in maintaining party harmony and securing tangible results. Socially he is a member of the Piqua and the Cosmopolitan Clubs, and fraternally he is a Mason. He has membership in the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church.

A. J. IDDINGS, president of the Citizens' Bank of West Milton and for many years a prominent citizen of Union Township, is located on a farm between West Milton and Pleasant Hill and is the owner of 440 acres of land, all located in Miami County. He was born in Newton Township, in 1842, and is a son of Benjamin and Barbara (Hill) Iddings. His grandfather was one of the pioneers of Newton Township.

Benjamin Iddings was born on the same farm as the subject of this sketch and lived in Newton Township all his life. He always farmed as a business and lived to reach the age of eighty-eight years. He married Barbara Hill, and ten children were the offspring of their union.

A. J. Iddings attended the district schools of his native township, and then turned his attention to agricultural pursuits which he has always followed. A man of great industry and foresight, he made steady advancement and accumulated land piece by piece until he was possessed of 440 acres of valuable land. He was one of the organizers and second president of the Citizens' Bank of West Milton, which was incorporated with a capital stock of $30,000. The other officers are: A. Pfifer, first vice president; C. Emerich, second vice-president; Ira Minnich, cashier; and Ada Gnagey, assistant cashier. The Citizens' Bank, backed as it is by men of substance and officered by men of demonstrated business capacity, takes high rank among the financial institutions of Miami County. At the present time there is in the course of construction on Miami Street a new building, with marble front, to be devoted entirely to the business of this institution.

Mr. Iddings was united in marriage with Miss Melinda Haskett, who prior to her marriage lived west of West Milton, in Miami County. They have one son, Esty, who lives across the road from his father and follows farming. The last named was married to Miss Lulu Coate and they have two children, John and Nellie. The subject of this record is a veteran of the Civil War, having enlisted in 1864 as a member of Company H, 147th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He served until the expiration of his term of enlistment. In politics, he is independent and not bound by any party ties. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Masons, and also the Patrons of Husbandry. He and his wife are consistent members of the Christian Church.

JOSEPH M. FINK, county commissioner-elect of Miami County and a representative business man of Piqua, was born in Washington Township, Miami County, Ohio, in 1853, and is a son of the late D. P. Fink, who came to Perry County, Ohio, when a small boy, from Pennsylvania, and to Miami County about 1845. He engaged in farming in Washington Township, where he died in 1880.

When his school days were over, Joseph M. Fink learned the machinists' trade, serving an apprenticeship of three years with Bowdel Brothers, and then going to Dayton, where he worked for three years more as a machinist. Mr. Fink then moved to a farm near Piqua and was engaged in agricultural pursuits for the next twenty-two years. In 1904 he sold his farm and came to Piqua, where he has since been engaged in a general contracting business, doing a large amount of work for the county in the way of ditching and making a specialty of sewer construction. He has always taken an active interest in politics, his father being also an ardent Republican, and Mr. Fink has frequently been elected to responsible offices. For six years he served as township trustee of Washington Township, for fourteen years was a member of the township board of education, and for two years was president of the Piqua Farmers' Institute. In November, 1908, he was elected a county commissioner of Miami County and will assume the duties of this office in September, 1909. In 1881 Mr. Fink was married to Miss Lida M. Hunter, who was born and reared in Miami County and is a daughter of James W. Hunter. They have two daughters, Fannie M. and Elsie B. Mr. and Mrs. Fink are members of the First Presbyterian Church at Piqua.

JOHN MUMMERT, one of Newberry Township's most respected retired citizens, resides on his valuable farm of 131½ acres, which lies on the Stillwater Turnpike Road, two miles north of Bradford, Ohio, was born in York County, Pennsylvania, October 6, 1844, and is a son of Joseph and Catherine (Orris) Mummert.

The father of Mr. Mummert died in Darke County, Ohio, when aged twenty-five years. His widow later married Joseph Risser, and she died in March, 1901. She was brought to York County from Germany, in infancy, and there grew to womanhood and married Joseph Mummert. Three years later they came to Miami County, Ohio, and settled first at Troy but later moved to near Horatio, in Darke County.

John Mummert was reared by his stepfather, on his farm in Darke County, and there he attended the district schools in his boyhood. He continued to live at home until he married, and remained in Darke County until 1878, when he came to Miami County and bought his present farm in Newberry Township. Mr. Mummert found the buildings in poor shape on the place and replaced nearly all of them, building a fine frame residence, and has made many excellent improvements. He no longer engages in farm labor himself, having rented the property to a good tenant.

In November, 1868, Mr. Mummert was married to Mis Eliza Ann Miller, who died July 19, 1908. This estimable woman was born in York County, Pennsylvania, but was reared in Miami County, Ohio, by her parents, who were David and Nancy Miller. Mr. and Mrs. Mummert had four children, of whom the only survivor is the youngest, Kathryn, who is the wife of John Eikenberry; they reside with Mr. Mummert. The three older children—a babe, Joseph and David, all died in infancy. Mr. Mummert is a deacon in the Brethren Church.

CHARLES A. HARSHBARGER is engaged in general farming and tobacco raising on his farm of fifty acres, located two miles northwest of West Milton, and is a representative of one of the old and prominent families of that vicinity. He was born in Union Township in 1870, and is a son of Lloyd and Electa (Sherer) Harshbarger, and a grandson of George and Mary (Penny) Harshbarger. His parents now reside about two and one-half miles west of West Milton.

Charles A. Harshbarger attended the public schools of Union Township and at an early age took up agricultural pursuits. He farmed in different parts of the township until 1900, when he purchased his present excellent farm of fifty acres. He remodeled the house and erected a tobacco shed, and has one of the most attractive places in this section of the county. He has always followed general farming and at the present is meeting with much success at tobacco growing. In January, 1891, Mr. Harshbarger was united in marriage with Florence E. Black, a daughter of Joseph E. Black, who is a well known resident of Miami County. They have one daughter, Gladys. In religious attachment they are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of West Milton. Politically, he is a Republican.

GEORGE SIEGEL, owner of 150 acres of farm land in Concord Township, located on both sides of the Troy and Covington Pike, about one and a half miles northwest of Troy, comes of an old and prominent family of Miami County. He was born in the outskirts of the city of Troy, February 22, 1870, and is a son of William and Mary (Shaffer) Siegel, who were natives of Germany. The paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch was engaged in farming in that country.

William Siegel, the father, lived in Germany until after his marriage and the birth of three of their children, and at that time set sail for the United States. Upon arriving in New York City, he bought transportation to Troy, Ohio, and arrived at this place with but one dollar in his pockets. He went to work in a brick yard at a salary of but fifty cents per day, and continued at that employment for three years. Although the wages were small, by a rigid practice of economy and a denial of all but the necessaries of life they made steady progress toward better things. For some years they used their old trunk for a dining table, and it is now numbered among the treasured possessions of their son, George. At the end of the three years he went with his family to live in a log cabin on the farm of old Mr. Harter in Elizabeth Township, by whom he was paid to clear the land. He was paid for cutting and hauling cord wood, and was given what he could raise on the place. Upon leaving that farm, he for thirteen years was in charge of the big farm of Mr. Harter's, which now is included within the incorporated limits of Troy, at that time a small place. While living there he purchased the farm of Lee Rollands, which was mostly cleared and is located in Concord Township. He erected all the buildings now standing and lived on this farm the remainder of his days. From an humble beginning he attained a respected position in the community. His death occurred on the morning of the inauguration of President Cleveland in 1893, he being at that time seventy years of age. His widow still survives him and at the advanced age of eighty-one years makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Mary Connor. William and Mary (Shaffer) Siegel were parents of the following children: Floyd; Tiny; John; Caroline, deceased; Mary; Charles; William; George; and Joseph.

George Siegel spent his boyhood on the home farm and attended the nearby district school, which his two daughters also have attended, the eldest graduating in the spring of 1908. At an early age George began working upon the home farm and managed its affairs for some years before his father's demise. He then resided in Clark County for a period of three years, after which he again took up his residence at the old home. He has 150 acres of good land which he devotes to general farming and is meeting with good results. He has four acres devoted to tobacco culture, and has found it a remunerative crop.

February 28, 1892, Mr. Siegel was united in marriage with Miss Ella Martin, who was born in Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a daughter of Levi and Catherine (Lewis) Martin. Her mother died at the age of fifty-six years, and her father still lives in the county at the advanced age of eighty-six. She is one of the following born to her parents: Mary, John, Marilda, George, Harrison (deceased), Ella, Barbara and David. Our subject and his wife have two daughters—Grace, who has been educated in the Troy High School; and May. Fraternally, Mr. Siegel is a member of the Odd Fellows. He is a Democrat in politics.

ISAAC N. HILL, one of Newton Township's sterling citizens, a general farmer residing on his valuable property of ninety-four acres, ten of which are still covered with timber, was born April 4, 1848, in Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio. His father was John William, his grandfather was Nathan and his great-grandfather was Thomas Hill. This is an old American family.

Nathan Hill was born March 15, 1788, near Ellicott Mills, Maryland, and from there in 1800, he came in company with Michal Williams (later his father-in-law), to Miami County, taking up a half section of land southwest of Pleasant Hill, in Newton Township. He was married to Francis Williams on June 29, 1809. On that farm was born his son, John William Hill. The latter spent his life in Newton Township and was a man who was well and favorably known. Although he seemingly enjoyed excellent health, being of robust appearance and weighing 317 pounds, he was a sufferer from Bright's disease of the kidneys and from a severe attack of this he died, after a sickness of a few days, on March 5, 1891, at the age of sixty-six years. He was twice married, (first) to Susan Weddle, a daughter of Isaac Weddle, who died January 4, 1874, and was buried in the Pleasant Hill Cemetery. The eight children of this marriage were: Henry H., Sarah, Isaac N., John Calvin, Madison J., Eunice, Mary Elizabeth and John. He was married (second) to Miss Josie Banty, a daughter of Peter Banty. She survives and resides at Pleasant Hill.

Isaac N. Hill attended school at Pleasant Hill and spent one winter in an excellent school in Illinois. After he came back to Newton Township, he assisted his father on the home farm until he married, then lived for a time on the homestead, moving from there to a farm situated on the opposite side of the river. He cultivated that land for nine years and then came to his present farm, purchasing all but twenty-five acres, which he has since added, from the old Jacob Stichter estate. He has made many improvements here but had little clearing to do. He has two sets of buildings on the farm, some of which he has put up and all of which he has repaired. In order to ensure good drainage, Mr. Hill put down 250 rods of tile.

On January 1, 1866, Mr. Hill was married to Miss Mary E. Stichter, a daughter of Jacob and Louisa Stichter, and they have three children: Cynthia, Charles and Isaac W. Cynthia married Arthur Teage and they have three children, I. J., Mary and Echo. Charles married Mary Baldridge and they have five children, Viola, Charles, Leo, Marie and Edward. Isaac W. married Myrtle Coate, a daughter of Dorsey and Ida Coate, and they have two children, Boyd and Verne. Mr. Hill and family are members of the Christian Church at Pleasant Hill. He is a Republican in his political views but is in no sense a politician, only a good citizen.

A. H. KESSLER, a railway postal clerk running between Springfield, Ohio, and Indianapolis, Indiana, on the Big Four Railroad, resides just south of Ludlow Falls, Miami County, Ohio. He was born in Miami County, July 2, 1861, and is a son of William B. Kessler, coming from an old and prominent family of the county.

Mr. Kessler received his early educational training in the district schools, after which he attended Ohio Northern University at Ada, Ohio. During his early days he engaged in teaching school and continued for some eight years, at the end of which time he entered the Cincinnati Law School. He graduated from that institution and practiced his profession in Troy, Ohio, for a period of ten years. He then accepted appointment to the railway mail service at which he has since continued, being now clerk in charge of the car. His duties keep him on the road continuously for six days, and then he remains at home eight days. The latter time is spent on his tract of three and a half acres south of Ludlow Falls and is devoted to the raising of fancy poultry, at which he has met with much success. He erected the fine home which stands on the place, and also made the many other improvements.

Mr. Kessler was united in marriage with Miss Anna C. Fritz, a daughter of John Fritz of Miami County, and they have one daughter, Bertha K., who married Harvey B. Boyer, a painter residing in Piqua. Politically the subject of this record is a Republican and has frequently in the past served in official positions. He served as constable and also one term as justice of the peace at Laura, and when living at Pleasant Hill served two terms as clerk of Newton Township. He is a member of the Blue Lodge, F. & A. M., at Pleasant Hill, and the Chapter at West Milton. Religiously, he and his wife are members of the Christian Church.

ANSON HILDEBRAN, a representative citizen of Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, has a farm of eighty acres in Section 26 of this township and a tract of twenty acres lying south of that location, but is now retired from business activity. He was born in Newton Township, August 16, 1848, and is a son of John, Jr., and Rachel (Tucker) Hildebran, and a grandson of John Hildebran, Sr.

John Hildebran, Sr., was born in Pennsylvania, where he lived until after his marriage, and then moved west to Montgomery County, Ohio. He later located in Newton Township, Miami County, and many years later removed to White County, Ohio, where he was living at the time of his death in 1881, at the age of eighty-four years. He was born in 1797. He was united in marriage with Esther Long, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1791, and they had the following children: Michael; Solomon, who died in infancy; Solomon (second); Labeman; John, Jr.; Mary; Anna; Sarah; Elmira; and Harriet. Mrs. Hildebran died in March, 1864, at the age of seventy-three years. Religiously they were members of the Christian Church.

John Hildebran, Jr., was born in Miami County, Ohio, about the year 1826, and always lived in Newton Township. He was a successful farmer and at the time of his death was the owner of 160 acres of good land. He was a man of high standing in the community, and his death, which occurred March 5, 1909, was mourned as a loss to the community. He was buried at Pleasant Hill Cemetery. Mr. Hildebran was united in marriage with Miss Rachel Tucker, a daughter of Nicholas and Charity Tucker, and they became parents of two children, Anson and Esther. Mrs. Hildebran is living and passes the time at the home of her son in Newton Township and that of her daughter at Laura. Religiously, she is a member of the Society of Friends, to which her husband also belonged. He was a Republican in politics.

Anson Hildebran attended school at Possum Hollow and Pattytown, after which he assisted his father on the farm. After his marriage he settled on a farm south of the home place, but later moved to the old homestead, where he has since resided. He erected all the buildings now standing on the place and set out all the trees. He follows general farming and stock raising.

May 22, 1869, Mr. Hildebran married Amanda Jane Davis, a daughter of Jonathan and Nellie Davis, and they became parents of the following children: Charles E., who married Anna Street, a daughter of Joseph Street; Lulu May, wife of Elzie Coppock, who is a son of Wesley and Jane Coppock; John Walter, who married Elizabeth Trost, daughter of Joseph Trost; Clara Belle, who is the wife of John Noll, son of P. S. Noll; William, who died at the age of four years; and Minnie, who died in infancy. Religiously, they are members of the Society of Friends and Mr. Hildebran has been an elder of the church for many years. He is a Republican in politics.

J. C. HENDERSON, who resides on a farm of eighty acres in Union Township, is a man of prominence and affluence and was at one time commissioner of Miami County. In addition to the farm named, he is the owner of three good farms in Darke County, Ohio, and of a half interest in a farm of 147 acres located near Laura. He was born in Brown County, Ohio, July 22, 1837, and is a son of Jonathan and Nancy (Carl) Henderson.

Jonathan Henderson was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and was a young man when he moved west to Brown County, Ohio. He followed farming all his days and died in 1865, at the age of sixty-eight years. His marriage to Nancy Carl resulted in the birth of eight children.

J. C. Henderson attended the public schools of his native county and worked on the home place until 1862, when he got up a train and went with the army. He was with Burnside at Knoxville at the time of the siege. Upon returning from the front, he located in Hamilton County, Ohio, and shortly afterward in Miami County, where he engaged in the sawmill business. While engaged in that business he lived for five years in Darke County, and during that time served a term as trustee of Twin Township. In 1875 he purchased the farm of eighty acres on which he now lives, and from time to time added other property until he now is the owner of several hundred acres. He erected all the buildings on his home farm and has followed general farming and tobacco raising, having some fifty acres in the latter commodity. He is a man of great energy and oversees the work on his various properties, in addition to which he is with his son proprietor of a tobacco warehouse at West Milton. He has always been active in the affairs of the township, which he has served several terms as trustee. He was elected county commissioner on the Democratic ticket, receiving a majority of 310 votes in Union Township, notwithstanding the fact the township is normally Republican by from 500 to 700 votes. He also served in that office through appointment to fill a vacancy, and during his incumbency the present court house was erected.

Mr. Henderson was first married to Miss Elizabeth Markley, who died in 1884, and they had three children: Caroline, deceased; Emma; and J. W. Henderson, who is in the elevator business at West Milton. He formed a second union with Miss Mary Harmon. They spend their winters in Florida, where he has a comfortable home, and thus they escape the rigors of the northern climate. Religiously, they are members of the United Brethren Church. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at West Milton.

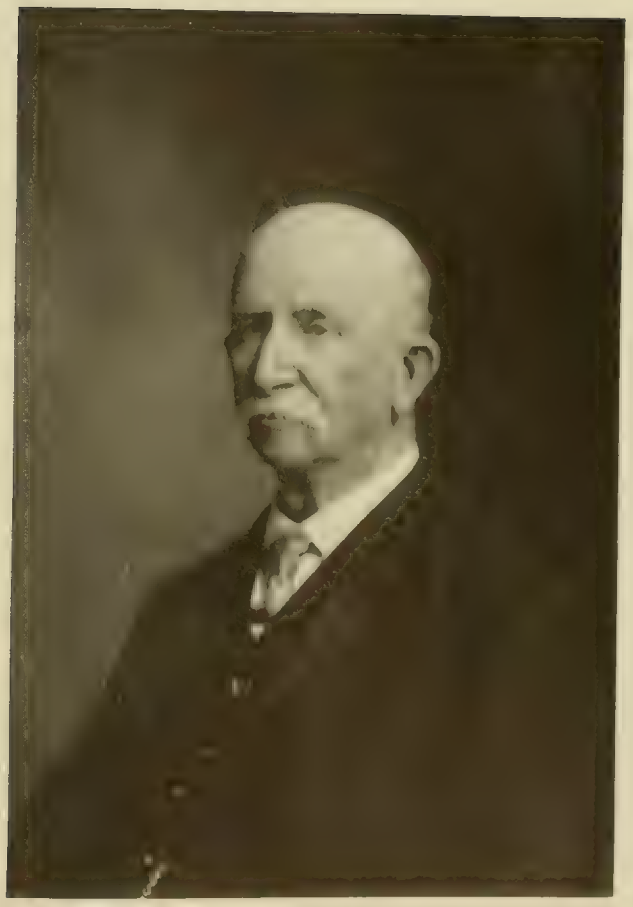
JOSIAH W. RUHL, president of the Citizens' National Bank of Covington, is a man of large and varied interests in the business world and has been prominently identified with the growth and development of the village in which he lives. He is proprietor of the well known Rocky Branch Quarry at Covington, dealing in crushed stone, lime and ground limestone, and has large realty holdings. In addition to the twelve acres in Covington, on which the quarries are located, he has a farm of 215 acres in Newberry Township, which he farmed until two years ago and on which are located three separate sets of farm dwellings. He and his wife also own another tract of sixty-five acres in Newberry Township, which is well improved.

Mr. Ruhl was born at Galion, in Crawford County, Ohio, February 18, 1837, and is a son of Levi and Mary (Folckemer) Ruhl, and a grandson of John Ruhl, who removed from York County, Pennsylvania, to Crawford County, Ohio, in 1828, and purchased 1,300 acres of land, on which the city of Galion now stands. The parents of the subject of this sketch in 1848 moved to Springfield, Ohio, where they died.

Josiah W. Ruhl was reared to maturity in Springfield, and in 1861 moved to Covington, Miami County, Ohio, where for a few years he devoted his energies solely to farming. In 1869 he opened his quarries in Covington, and after a time operated them on an extensive scale, employing a force of forty men. He in 1871 erected his present home near the quarries. In 1876 Mr. Ruhl and his brother, Albertus M., opened a general store, which they operated about nine or ten years in Covington. He was for ten years a member of the City Council, seven years trustee of Newberry Township, and for ten years a member of the School Board. He is at the present time president of the Board of Public Safety, and president of the Highland Cemetery Association.

Mr. Ruhl was first married to Zipporah Lindsey, and they became parents of two children: Dr. L. A. Ruhl, a successful physician and surgeon, of Covington, and vice-president of the Miami County Medical Association; and Eva M., wife of R. W. Shuman, secretary of the Y. M. C. A. at Camden, New Jersey. Mrs. Ruhl died in 1888, and Mr. Ruhl subsequently formed a second marital union with Miss Sarah Royer. Religiously they are members of the Presbyterian Church, of which he is a deacon. He has been an officer and director of the Citizens' National Bank ever since it was established in 1900, serving as vice-president until January 1, 1909, when he was elected president of the institution. He is a man of sterling worth and integrity, and is most highly esteemed by his fellow men.

FRANK X. HEMM, who resides on a splendid farm of eighty-eight acres lying just south of the corporation line of Piqua, is a prominent citizen of Washington Township, Miami County, Ohio. He was born in Germany, February 12, 1845, and is a son of John and Catherine (Ott) Hemm, who farmed in their native land and conducted a country hotel. The mother died there on October 16, 1865, and the father on August 9, 1867.



JOSIAH W. RUHL

Frank X. Hemm was reared in Germany and was twenty-four years of age when, in 1869, he came to the United States. He located at Sidney, Ohio, and was employed by his brother, George Hemm, who was engaged in the nursery business there. He remained in Sidney twelve years and then came to Miami County and engaged in the nursery business. He purchased his present farm, which then consisted of 121 acres, from Dr. Warren Dorsey. He built an addition to the fine old historic house which adorned the place, and has resided on this farm since March 9, 1889. He sold off a portion of his property to the Statler Stone Quarries, and retains eighty-eight acres. He engaged in the nursery business with a high degree of success until 1896, since which time he has followed general farming. On two different occasions he made pleasure trips to Germany, visiting members of the family who remain in that country. After coming to Miami County, Mr. Hemm was joined in marriage with Miss Barbara Butz, also a native of Germany, and seven children were born to them: Anthony; Mary, wife of Stephen McCarty; Philip; John; Frank; Valentine; and Nettie, who is Sister in a convent at Cincinnati. Religiously, the family belongs to the German Catholic Church at Piqua.

CLARINDON A. HAWORTH, residing on a farm of ninety-two acres located two and one-half miles southwest of West Milton, has been a resident of Union Township, Miami County, Ohio, all his life except for a period of three years spent in Indiana. He was born in that township September 27, 1868, and is a son of Harvey and Marietta (Albaugh) Haworth. His grandparents came from the east and located near Georgetown at a very early period.

Harvey Haworth was born in Miami County, Ohio, and has farmed all his life except the last five years, during which time he has been living in retirement at Georgetown. He still owns a fine farm of eighty acres. He was married to Marietta Albaugh and they became parents of the following children: Clarindon A.; Dr. Albert H., who is in practice at West Milton; Preston, who resides near Bradford; Zerelda, who lives near Pittsburg, Ohio; Nora, who lives near Potsdam; and Ellis, who lives on the old home place.

Clarindon A. Haworth attended the public schools of his native township and continued to live on the home place until after his marriage. He then began farming the property owned by his wife's mother in Union Township, but after a time moved to Indiana, where he remained three years. At the end of that time he returned to Union Township and in 1905 rented his father's farm. Two years later he purchased ninety-two acres of Mr. M. Dohner, and he has since lived upon this place. He follows general farming and tobacco raising and is meeting with considerable success. He is a Republican in politics, and served some time as constable and truant officer. Mr. Haworth was united in marriage with Miss Ida Wellbaum of Miami County and they have a son and a daughter, namely, Lee and Mabel.

JEFFERSON S. COMBS, vice-president of the Hobart Electric Manufacturing Company, and a highly esteemed business man of Troy, Ohio, has been a resident of this city several years. He was born at Leonardtown, St. Mary's County, Maryland, in 1870, and received his educational training in the public schools.

At the age of twenty years, Mr. Combs moved to Washington, D. C., where he was engaged in the dry goods business some eight years, and at the end of that time moved west to Dayton, Ohio. He was identified with the Hayner Distilling Company for five years, and then for three years represented the Burroughs Adding Machine Company in New York City. At the solicitation of several friends, he came to Troy, Ohio, and began his connection with the Hobart Electric Company as secretary. At the election of officers for this company in September, 1908, Mr. Combs was made vice-president, which office he now fills. He is a stockholder and director of the First National Bank of Troy, and was a member of the building committee when that institution erected one of the finest bank buildings in the state of Ohio. He also is a stockholder and director in the Troy Carriage Sunshade Company.

November 22, 1905, Jefferson S. Combs was intermarried with Miss Sybil Harter Coleman, who comes of one of the oldest and most respected families. Her maternal grandfather, S. K. Harter, was one of the most prominent and influential men of Miami County, and resided in Troy. Mr. Combs is a member of the order of Elks, and the Troy Club.

DAVID C. FALKNOR is a progressive citizen and prosperous farmer of Union Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is located on a farm of fifty acres two and one-half miles southwest of West Milton. He was born in Clay Township, Montgomery County, Ohio, October 12, 1850, his paternal grandparents having moved there at an early date from Pennsylvania.

Levi Falknor, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, and lived there all his life, dying at the age of eighty-two years. He always followed farming. He married Nancy Herr, also a native of Montgomery County, and the following were the offspring of their union: One who died in infancy; Carris, who lives in Montgomery County, Ohio; David C.; Frances (Good); Loren E., who lives at West Milton; Mary A. (Martindale); Theodore, who is engaged in farming; and Jerome, who lives in Dayton, Ohio.

David C. Falknor attended the district schools of Clay Township, after which he learned the trade of a painter. He followed that trade in the vicinity of Dayton for eight years, after which he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. He rented property in Montgomery County some fourteen years, and in 1891 moved to Union Township, Miami County, where he purchased his present farm from Daniel Wheelock. He has made most of the improvements on the place, set out all of the trees, erected tobacco sheds, and built the first silo in this part of the country. He follows general farming and tobacco raising, and by his untiring industry and progressive methods has met with deserved success.

Mr. Falknor was united in marriage with Miss Clara Morse, who was born in Darke County, Ohio, but was reared on the farm west of where she now lives. Politically, he is a Democrat and takes a deep interest in the success of that party.

D. B. MAURER, a leading business citizen of Bradford, dealing in dry goods, notions and groceries, and carrying a complete stock in each line, has been established here since June, 1882. He was born on a farm in Darke County, Ohio, three miles from Bradford, May 3, 1857, and is a son of Henry and Julia Ann (Bigler) Maurer.

D. B. Maurer was reared on the home farm and trained in agricultural pursuits by his father, who was one of the substantial farmers of Darke County. When he left the farm he learned the carpenters' trade and worked at that for five years, after which he came to Bradford. His older brother, A. B. Maurer, had been engaged in a mercantile line at this place for twelve years and sold out to D. B. Maurer, in 1882, who continued at the same location, and for forty years the Maurer store has been one of the principal ones in Bradford. Their town patronage is satisfactory and they do an immense country business. Their honorable methods have always commanded the confidence of the public and their stock is bought with particular attention to the demands of their trade. Families have dealt with the Maurers from the time when the store was a small one, with a stock representing the outlay of a few hundred dollars, up to the present, when thousands have been expended. Mr. Maurer was married in Miami County to Miss Lavina Hartle, a daughter of James Hartle and a sister of O. L. Hartle, a prominent lumber merchant of Covington.

In politics, Mr. Maurer is a Democrat. He has served two terms as treasurer of Bradford and one term as mayor, and at present is deputy tax collector, a position he has held for two years. He is always more or less interested in public matters when the welfare of the community is at stake and in all that is of importance he is sure to make his influence felt. He has held many offices of trust, having settled several estates and acted as guardian for a number of wards.

Since the above was written Mr. J. B. Walker has purchased a half interest in the business and the firm name now is Maurer & Walker; the firm will carry on the business in the same agreeable manner as formerly, with Mr. Maurer as general manager.

ROBERT F. WILSON, a trustee of Concord Township and a representative citizen of Miami County, Ohio, resides on the McKaig Road, where he has a fine home and ten acres of land. He owns a farm of eighty acres located on the Wilson Pike in Concord Township, and also farms the one hundred acre farm of his father's, which adjoins. He was born in that township, April 4, 1852, and is a son of William W. and Bathena (Dilts) Wilson.

The Wilson family is an old one in Miami County. Robert Wilson, grandfather of the subject of this record, was born and reared in England, where in early life he followed the trade of a weaver. Upon coming to the United States, he first located in Maryland, where he entered the employ of a man who bore the name of Wilson, but who was not related to him. He subsequently married Susan Wilson, daughter of his employer, and continued to live there for some years. He left because of his antipathy to slavery, although his father-in-law, who was a prosperous man and slave owner, urged him to remain. He first located in Montgomery

County, Ohio, but shortly after became established in Miami County, settling on what is now the Troy and West Milton Turnpike, on the farm now owned by Anson Williams, in Concord Township. It was a heavily timbered tract which was cleared by his boys, while he followed his trade as weaver. He knew nothing of farming, in fact could scarcely hitch a horse. He later disposed of the farm and purchased one in Shelby County, south of Sidney, Ohio. Upon retiring from business activity he moved to Sidney, where he passed away at the ripe old age of eighty-eight years. His widow died at the same age, but survived him about eight years. They had ten children, all born in Ohio except the eldest; their names were as follows: John, deceased; William W.; Martha; Robert, deceased; Christopher; James; Richard; and three daughters who died within one week of each other.

William W. Wilson was born on the old homestead in Concord Township in 1828 and until he retired and moved to Troy, where he now lives, never lived out of the township. He helped clear the farm and did most of the teaming. Deer and other wild animals abounded during his boyhood and he derived much pleasure in hunting. He and his brother, John, often hunted at night and many times they were chased home by panthers. He always farmed and bought and sold stock during his active career and met with more than average success. After his marriage he left the home place and his first purchase was a tract of forty acres near the farm he now owns. This he sold and purchased eighty acres of his present farm, to which he added from time to time. His first marriage was with Bathena Dilts, whose father, Francis Dilts, came from Pennsylvania to Montgomery County, Ohio, and later located in Concord Township, in Miami County. Mr. Dilts was a timber man and a large land owner. William W. and Bathena Wilson had the following children: Susan, wife of John Shoupp of Troy, Ohio; Robert Francis, who was named in honor of both his grandfathers; Alfred of Troy; Ella, wife of J. H. Brown of Troy; and Margaret, wife of J. T. Houser of Troy. Mr. Wilson's second marriage was with Mary Jane Dilts, half-sister of his first wife, and she died leaving one daughter, Gertrude, who is the wife of Ellis Gillespie of Troy.

Robert F. Wilson has always lived in Concord Township; he helped clear the farm and when a young boy hauled wood to Troy, which was then a small place. He attended the public schools and lived at home until his marriage. His father then turned the farming operations over to him, but they continued the stock buying and selling in partnership. He later purchased thirty acres from his father and fifty acres of the old Jennings farm from E. Neves Weaver. He continued to make his home on that place until 1906, when he bought his present home on the McKaig Road. He has frequently been honored with various township offices, was land appraiser in 1900, and since that time has served capably as township trustee.

In May, following his twenty-first birthday anniversary, Mr. Wilson was united in marriage with Rosanna Brown, a daughter of Andrew Brown, who is well known in Darke County, Ohio. Six children were born to them: Minnie (Favorite); Fred, a farmer residing on the Fenner Turnpike in Newton Township, who married Bessie Shuman and has a daughter, Reva. Bertha, who is the wife of Edward Sweitzer, and lives on Pleasant Hill in Concord Township; Emma, who is the wife of Adolphus Jones of Concord Township, and has a son, Robert; Effie, wife of Ira Holfinger of Concord Township, who has a son, John; and Edward J., who married Marie Gillis and resides on his father's farm. Minnie Wilson first married Henry Kropp, by whom she has a daughter, Hazel Kropp. He died four years after marriage and she formed a second union with Charles Favorite and lives in Washington Township, Miami County.

Mr. Wilson is a Republican in politics, and takes an active interest in the success of that party. He is a progressive and public-spirited man and has always been among the foremost in the development and improvement of the township.

JOSEPH ZIMMERMAN is engaged in farming operations in Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is the owner of fifty-four acres located in Section 14 of that township. He was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, November 3, 1856, and is a son of Charles and Sophia (Trost) Zimmerman.

Charles Zimmerman was born in Germany, February 11, 1822, and after his marriage came to the United States. He located at Dayton, Ohio, and for some three years worked out by the day. He then bought a farm of thirty acres in Montgomery County but after a couple of years sold out and farmed on shares near Harrisburg for two years. At the end of that time he moved to Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, where he purchased an eighty-acre farm. He was subsequently the owner of a forty-acre tract in that township, which he afterward sold. He continued to live on the former place until his death on January 23, 1896. He was married in Germany to Sophia Trost, a daughter of John and Dora Trost, and they reared the following children: Charles, Fred and Henry (twins), Katherine, Joseph, John, Samuel, Margaret, Mary, and Emma. Religiously, they were members of the Lutheran Church. Mrs. Zimmerman died in the fall of 1894, and both she and her husband were buried in Pleasant Hill Cemetery.

Joseph Zimmerman attended the Quaker School and the Inglewood School in Montgomery County, and the Fall Branch School in Miami County. He worked on his father's farm until he reached the age of twenty years, after which he worked out by the month for four years. At the end of that time he farmed the home place one year for one-third of the crop. After his marriage in 1881 he settled on a farm south of the home place and there rented and farmed for a period of twenty-two years. He then purchased his present farm of fifty-four acres from John Cox. He has added to the house and barn and has made many desirable improvements throughout the place. He follows general farming and has about two acres out in tobacco. He rents out seven acres to others for tobacco raising. Mr. Zimmerman is a wide-awake and progressive citizen and takes a deep interest in public affairs. He is a Republican in politics, and has served twelve years as school director, supervisor one year and pike superintendent eight years. He also served two terms on the Petit Jury.

January 29, 1881, the subject of this sketch was united in marriage with Miss Annie E. Jay, a daughter of Jonathan M. and Mary Ann Jay, and they have been blessed with the following children: Edna, who married Frank Zumbrink and has two children, Glen and Herbert; Meda, who is the wife of Lewis Slegle and has a daughter, Mildred; Jud C.; and Roxie. Religiously, the family attends the Christian Church at Pleasant Hill. Mr. Zimmerman is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Pleasant Hill.

LLOYD HARSHBARGER is a prominent farmer of Union Township, Miami County, Ohio, and resides two and one-half miles west of West Milton, where he owns a farm of fifty-six acres. He is a native of the township in which he lives, having been born April 11, 1848, and is a son of George and Mary (Penny) Harshbarger.

George Harshbarger was born seven miles from Dayton, in Montgomery County, Ohio, and was a young man when he moved to Miami County. He engaged in farming in Union township thereafter until his death at the age of sixty-four years. He was married after his removal to this county to Mary Penny and they had the following children: Mary Jane of Piqua; Samuel of Ludlow Falls; Lloyd; George of Bradford, Ohio; and Anna, who died young.

Lloyd Harshbarger received a good common school education and in the meantime assisted his father in the work about the farm. He farmed various places in Union Township until 1895, when he purchased his present farm of fifty-six acres. He put up most of the buildings on the place, set out a good orchard and made various improvements of an important nature. Mr. Harshbarger was married to Electa Sherer, who was born in Montgomery County but lived in Miami County prior to her marriage. They have had eight children, namely: Charles; Anna; William; John, deceased; Lorain; Howard, whose death resulted from drowning at the age of twenty-two years; Roy; and Russell. Religiously, they are members of the Friends' Church. Politically, he is a Republican.

WILLIAM WILGUS, SR., one of Lost Creek Township's most substantial farmers and business men, is the owner of 250 acres of well improved farm land, located about ten miles northeast of Troy, on the Lost Creek Extension Pike. He was born on this farm, June 20, 1837, and is a son of Thomas and Hannah (Robinson) Wilgus, and a grandson of William Wilgus. The members of the family were in early days Quakers and have long been established on American soil.

William Wilgus, the grandfather, was born in New Jersey and was a tailor by trade. At an early date he moved with his family to Cincinnati, Ohio, in wagons. Not liking that city, he started to make the return trip to New Jersey. About four miles east of Lebanon, in Warren county, Ohio, he encountered a Quaker settlement and one of his horses dying while there, it was necessary for him to remain for the winter. Being himself a Quaker and the surroundings and people congenial, he finally decided to make this his home. He purchased the farm of 120 acres on which he first stopped, and for a period of eighty years this farm continued in the Wilgus name. He carried on his trade for a number of years and engaged in raising horses extensively, meeting with very good success. About the year 1833 he came to Miami County, Ohio, and with his son, Thomas, purchased a farm of 320 acres in Lost Creek Township, of which a part now forms the home place of the subject of this sketch. He also purchased three other quarter sections for his other sons in Miami County. However, he continued to make his home in Warren County until his death, at the advanced age of ninety-two years. His wife, Elizabeth Wright in maiden life, died some years before. They had the following children: Thomas; William; Dr. Samuel; James; Daniel; Henrietta; Angeline, wife of M. McKinley; Mary, wife of Joseph Nedrey; Lydia, wife of William Dunan; and Harriett, wife of Arnold Sabin. All of this family are now deceased.

Thomas Wilgus, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in New Jersey and was a baby of about three years when he was brought by his parents to Warren County, Ohio. There he grew to manhood and was married, living there until he and his father purchased the half section of land in Lost Creek Township in 1834. He received a fair education in the district schools, and his son, William, now has in his possession a book his father used in figuring when in school. He became a successful farmer and affluent citizen in Miami County. His first marriage was consummated October 28, 1830, and was with Miss Anna Hunt, who died October 29, 1834, about three weeks after their arrival in Miami County. They had two children: John, deceased; and Mary, deceased wife of John Babb, who also is deceased. Mr. Wilgus formed a second union with Hannah Robinson, who was one of four children brought from New Jersey by their widowed mother. Four children were born to them: William; Michael, who resides at Casstown; Thomas, of Fletcher, Miami County; and Anna, deceased wife of H. Brecount. Mr. Wilgus died in March, 1885, having survived his wife about two years.

William Wilgus has always resided in Lost Creek Township. He attended the district schools and when young began helping his father on the home farm. After his marriage he started out for himself by buying of his father 100 acres, which is now being farmed by his son, Carl. Later he and his brother, John, purchased the interests of the heirs to the home farm, and finally he bought out the latter. He has followed general farming and stock-raising and has been more than ordinarily successful. The house which stands on the farm, the largest on this road, was erected by his father in 1862 to replace the one destroyed by fire. The other structures on the place are in keeping with it, and makes it one of the best improved farms in the township. He is a Republican in politics and has served several years on the school board. He was for twelve years a member of the Miami Agricultural Board.

September 6, 1864, Mr. Wilgus was united in marriage with Miss Mary Throckmorton, a daughter of George and Sarah (Lafferty) Throckmorton, who were of Quaker families and came west from New Jersey to Warren County, Ohio. The following children blessed this union: Howard, of Clark County, Ohio, who married Della Jenkins and has two children, Horace and Lucile; Sallie, wife of Daniel

Drake, of Lost Creek Township, by whom she has a son, Harry; Hannah, who married Frank Lane and lives in Fletcher; Lydia, who is teaching in the high school at Franklin, Ohio; Carl, a twin, who married Clara Pruden and has one child, Virginia; Carrie, a twin to Carl, who lives at home; Ellen, wife of Lewis Roberts, of Michigan; and three who died in infancy. Religiously, the subject of this sketch is a Methodist and a member of Wesley Chapel, which was started by his father on the Wilgus estate.

ALBERT B. JONES, who is general manager for the firm of Henderson & Coppack, elevator operators of Laura, Union Township, was born in Franklin Township, Darke County, Ohio, April 14, 1876, a son of H. H. and Jane (Graham) Jones. The father, H. H. Jones, was a native of Darke County and a carpenter by trade. He followed his trade most of his life but for the last few years of it was station agent for the Big Four Railroad at Laura, Miami County. His death took place in 1903—April 11th. He married Jane Graham, of Missouri, and their family numbered thirteen children.

Albert B. Jones was educated in the schools of Laura and eighteen years ago began industrial life in the employ of the firm with which he is now connected. He was then but fifteen years of age. Beginning in an humble station, he has worked his way up until he is now a partner in the company, and has full charge of the Laura branch of the business. The company's elevator at this point has a capacity of 20,000 bushels and is located on the Big Four tracks. It is the only one in this section and does an excellent business. Mr. Jones is a Republican in politics. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias lodge in Laura and to the Masonic lodge at West Milton. He has taken a useful part in local affairs, has been councilman for six years and has served as town treasurer four years. Mr. Jones married Lauda Jones, a daughter of Albert Jones of this county. He and his wife reside in Union township. They have a daughter, Frieda, who is attending school.

JOHN MAURER, the genial proprietor of the Dewey Hotel, at Bradford, Ohio, is one of the town's prominent and substantial citizens. He was born in Germany, March 22, 1838, and is a son of Philip and Catherine Maurer.

Mr. Maurer was reared on a small farm and remained there until he was twenty-seven years of age. Finding it impossible to accumulate any considerable fortune in that place and condition, he decided to cross the Atlantic Ocean and find out if his industry could not advance him faster in America. He landed at the port of New York almost without capital, August 14, 1865, and from there went to Philadelphia for two months. He then found farm work near Piqua, Ohio, and when the season was over, secured work in a livery stable. On March 16, 1867, he entered the employ of the Pan Handle Railroad, and in this connection found that his qualities of honesty and industry were recognized and for over thirty-one years he remained with that road, becoming a well paid and thoroughly trusted employe. He retired from railroad work on March 23, 1898. In 1873 he established his home at Bradford and for twenty-six years was car inspector for the Pennsylvania system. Mr. Maurer at different times invested in property and besides owning his hotel, a first class house containing sixteen rooms, which he has been operating since February, 1899, he has six valuable town lots and a substantial ten-room house which brings him a good rental. Mr. Maurer is an entirely self-made man and through his own personal effort has accumulated enough to make him an independent capitalist.

Mr. Maurer was married (first) at Piqua, Ohio, to Catherine Billiger, who, at death, left three children, George, Charles and Mrs. Catherine Weldy. His second wife, now deceased, was Catherine Hoover. His third marriage was to the estimable lady who assists in the management of the hotel, Mrs. Barbara Staub. As an indication of the confidence felt in him by his fellow citizens, Mr. Maurer has served three terms in the Town Council. He is a member of the Improved Order of Red Men and of the Odd Fellows.

O. C. MOTE, who for many years was engaged as an instructor in the schools of Miami County, is at the present time engaged in agricultural pursuits in Union Township, where he owns a farm of forty-eight acres about two miles from West Milton. He was born near Laura, in Union Township, in 1870, and is a son of Daniel and Lavina (Glunt) Mote.

Daniel Mote, who has been a resident of Union Township for many years and is now past sixty-five years of age, is a veteran of the Civil War. He enlisted in 1862 as a member of the 110th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served with credit until the close of the war, participating in many of the important engagements. Upon his return from the front he took up farming, which he has always followed. He was united in marriage with Lavina Glunt, also of Miami County, and they became parents of the following children: Cora, who died young; Clara; O. C. Mote, whose name heads this record; Edith; Jasper, deceased; Elizabeth; Jennie; William, deceased; and Minnie.

O. C. Mote received a good educational training in the public schools of Union Township, and Darke County, and at Pleasant Hill, after which he engaged in teaching. He taught school for a period of seventeen years and with marked ability. In 1905 he began devoting his entire time to farming, and by following modern and approved methods has been more than ordinarily successful. He follows general farming and tobacco growing.

Mr. Mote was joined in marriage with Miss Emily Pearson and they have had six children, namely: Harry; Rollie; Nellie; Della, deceased; Portia; and Donna. Religiously, they are members of the Church of Christ. He is an independent in politics, exercising his franchise in favor of the man he deems best fitted for the office in issue.

FRED ZIMMERMAN is a prosperous farmer and tobacco grower of Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is the owner of a tract of forty acres located in Section 23. He was born at Dayton, Ohio, December 12, 1853, and is a son of Charles and Sophia (Trost) Zimmerman.

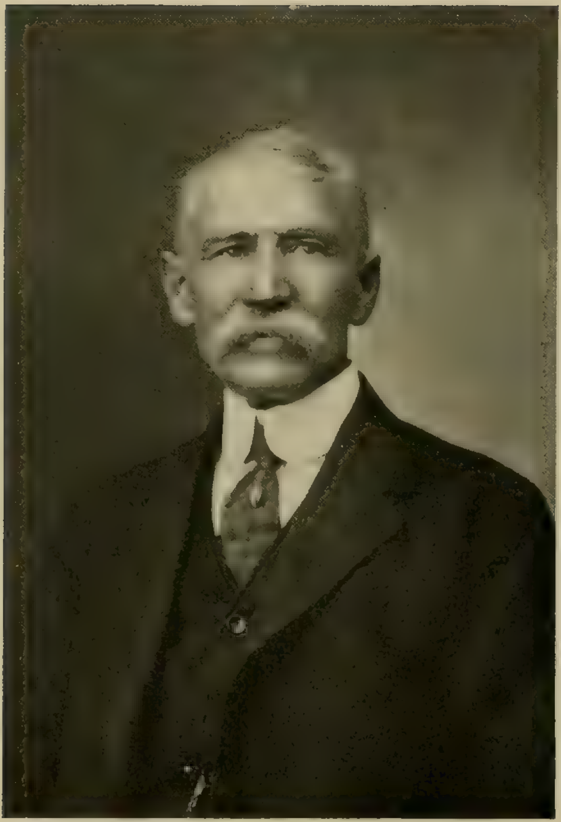
Charles Zimmerman was born in Germany and lived in that country until after his marriage. Upon coming to the United States he located at Dayton, Ohio, where his first work was in helping to clean the canal and build the railroad. He worked by the day in the vicinity of that city for three years, then bought thirty acres of land east of Little York, which he farmed some years. He sold that place and then for two years farmed near Harrisburg, at the end of which time he purchased eighty acres in Newton Township, Miami County, of which one-half is the forty acres now owned by the subject of this sketch. He cleared some twelve acres of the land and made various improvements. He also was the owner of the Trost farm, which he later sold to Z. Pierce. He was a hard worker and prospered. His wife, who also was born in Germany, died in August, 1894, and he survived her about seventeen months. He died January 23, 1896, and both were buried in the Pleasant Hill Cemetery. They were parents of the following children: Charles, Fred, Henry, Katherine, Joseph, John, Samuel, Margaret, Mary and Emma. In religious attachment they were members of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Zimmerman was a Democrat in politics.

Fred Zimmerman first attended the Quaker school near Chambersburg, and afterward the Harrisburg and Fall Branch schools. Upon leaving school, he worked at farming by the month, being in the employ of one man for nine years. After his marriage he settled on his father's farm in Newton Township, where he has resided continuously since. He has remodeled the buildings and in addition erected a good tobacco shed. In addition to general farming, he has in from three to five acres of tobacco each year, and has been very successful with that crop. He has put in about 800 rods of tile for drainage purposes and has a well improved place throughout.

December 20, 1885, Mr. Zimmerman married Miss Mollie Jennings, a daughter of William and Sarah (Karns) Jennings, and they have one son, William, who is unmarried and lives at the home place. Religiously, they are members of the Christian Church. He is a Democrat in politics and is a member of the Fair Board.

ROLLAND R. DU BOIS, one of Bradford's enterprising young business men, dealing in notions and groceries and carrying a full and well selected stock, was born at Wapakoneta, Auglaize County, Ohio, in 1881, and is a son of L. T. and Mary Ellen (Brown) Du Bois.

L. T. Du Bois, one of Bradford's leading citizens, a member of the Town Council and president of the Bradford Building & Loan Association, was born in Warren County, Ohio, May 16, 1849, and is a son of Tunis and Elizabeth Du Bois. In his boyhood his parents moved on a farm in Darke County and lived there until he was a young man. They then retired to Wapakoneta, where Mr. Du Bois lived for eight years and then, having married in Darke County, he shortly afterward settled on his farm there and remained until 1907, when he came to Bradford. At Greenville, Ohio, he married Mary Ellen Brown and they have had seven children, namely: Laura, who is the wife of Edward Moore and has one child, Rachel; Benjamin, the only member of the family who died; Elizabeth, who is the wife of Guy Weybright; Rolland R., of Bradford; Carrie, who is the wife of Alton Campbell; Lottie, who is a teacher in the public schools of New Harrison, Darke County; and Harry, who makes his home in Colo-



T. C. SHILLING

rado. Mr. Du Bois still retains his farm of eighty acres in Darke County. Both he and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church.

Rolland R. Du Bois was seven years old when his parents took possession of their farm in Adams Township, Darke County, and there he was reared. He attended the country schools and taught school through one winter in Adams Township. In 1907 he established his business at Bradford and to this he has given the larger part of his attention ever since, displaying a large amount of business capacity in its management. There are other concerns in his line but he has demonstrated that there is always room for one more if that one is superior, in any branch of trade. Mr. Du Bois married Miss Cora Ullery, a daughter of David Ullery, and they have one son, Myron. Mr. and Mrs. Du Bois are members of the Presbyterian Church, in which he is a deacon. He is identified with the Masonic fraternity.

J. M. SWITZER, who conducts the only establishment in West Milton devoted exclusively to the sale of agricultural implements, is located on Hayes Street. He was born near Pleasant Hill, in Miami County, Ohio, May 26, 1874, and is a son of Jacob and Mary (Kunkle) Switzer.

Jacob Switzer, father of the subject of this record, was eight years old when he accompanied his parents from Pennsylvania, to Miami County, locating on the farm he now owns. He engaged in farming throughout his active career and is now living in retirement at Covington. As a result of his marriage to Mary Kunkle, they became parents of seven children.

J. M. Switzer received his educational training in the district schools of the county, and upon leaving school took up farming, which he followed successfully for eleven years. November 3, 1906, he moved to West Milton and purchased the implement store of Minnick & Miller, located on Hayes Street. He carries a full line of agricultural implements and farm tools, and the volume of business transacted is exceeding his expectations and is constantly increasing. Mr. Switzer was united in marriage with Miss Vinnie Black and they have three sons, namely: Harry, who is attending school; Wilbur; and Harrold. Politically, he is a Republican. In fraternal affiliation he is an Odd Fellow.

T. C. SHILLING, of the firm of Shilling & Roberts, leading furniture dealers and undertakers of Troy, Ohio, has been engaged in the mercantile business in this city for a period of over forty years. He was born in Columbus, Ohio, in 1845, and is a son of Jesse Shilling, who prior to his death was one of the prominent and active citizens of Troy.

Jesse Shilling, a son of William and Hannah Shilling, was born in Maryland, in 1825, and was about two years of age when his parents removed to Columbus, Ohio. There he was reared and educated, and when twenty-one years old was foreman of the Hayden Foundry, at Columbus, Ohio. He acquired considerable skill as an engineer and followed that occupation for years. In 1854 he moved to Troy and soon afterward agitated the establishment of a fire department here. Largely through his activity the project was favorably acted upon and he was installed as the first engineer of the department. He was always among the foremost in furthering the city's interests, being one of the founders of the present water works system, and was most highly esteemed by his fellow-citizens. During the war he was provost-marshal of Miami County under Captain A. C. Duel. He also served as a member of the City Council.

T. C. Shilling attended school in Columbus until his parents moved to Troy in 1854, and then attended school here until the Civil War was in progress. He enlisted as a member of Company H, 147th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Upon his return from the front he engaged in the dry goods business for some years, and then formed a partnership with Mr. Bond, under the firm name of Bond and Shilling, in the furniture and undertaking business. The partnership continued sixteen years, when upon the death of Mr. Bond, Mr. Roberts became a partner, the firm name being changed to Shilling & Roberts. This is the oldest firm of furniture dealers and undertakers in the city, and commands a liberal patronage at the hands of the people.

Mr. Shilling was married at Fort Wayne, Indiana, to Miss Jennie Hartzell, and they have two sons, Eugene and Wade, both of whom are identified with the business of Shilling & Roberts. Mr. Shilling takes a deep interest in local politics, but with the exception of service on the School board, has filled no public office, being strictly a man of business. Fraternally, he is a member and has filled all the chairs of the following lodges: Blue Lodge, F. & A. M.; Chapter; Odd Fellows; Knights of Pythias; also a member of the Knights Templar. He is also past commander of the local post, G. A. R. Religiously, he is a member of the Baptist Church.

WILLIAM J. JONES, who comes of an old and prominent family of Union Township, Miami County, Ohio, resides about one mile southwest of West Milton, where he has a splendid farm of 163 acres. He was born in Union Township, a short distance below his present place, October 16, 1852, and is a son of Samuel Jones.

Samuel Jones also was born in Union Township, where his father was among the pioneer settlers, having come from Georgia at an early date. He was always engaged in agricultural pursuits and occupied a place of high standing and affluence in the community. He lived for many years on the farm now owned by the subject of this record, and died there at the age of eighty-three years. He was married to Miss Anna Jay, who also was a native of Miami County, and they became parents of ten children.

William J. Jones attended the district schools of Union Township, also one term in Grant County, Indiana, and three terms in Henry County, Indiana. After his school days were over, he remained on the home farm and has farmed there ever since. The buildings were erected before he came into possession of the place, but he has made many improvements and has one of the best kept places in this section. He has met with a high degree of success in general farming and stock raising. Politically, he is an ardent Republican but takes no active part in political affairs. In religious attachment he is a member of the Friends Church.

T. C. BROWN, one of Miami County's representative citizens and a commissioner of the same for the past four years, resides on his farm of 185 acres in Washington Township, where he was born in 1845. He is a son of B. F. and a grandson of James Brown.

James Brown was born in Virginia and was one of the hardy woodsmen and pioneers who accompanied Daniel Boone to Kentucky. In 1807 he pressed onward into Miami County, Ohio, founding the family in Washington Township. There his son, the late B. F. Brown, was born, in 1811, who died in 1887. Although he lived on his farm throughout a long life, he was well known all over the county, being a man of sterling character and noted public spirit. He capably filled all the township offices and for a number of years served also as a county commissioner.

T. C. Brown, like his late father, has always identified himself with agricultural pursuits in Washington Township. For some years he has been one of the leading stock raisers of Miami County, his Shorthorn cattle and thoroughbred horses taking prizes wherever exhibited. He makes a specialty of trotting horses and has animals of which he is justly proud. One of the noted occupants of his stables is Delegat, a fine trotter with a record of 2:19 and the sire of a number of fine animals. Mr. Brown purchased Delegat in Lexington, Ky., when he was a two-year old.

In 1876 Mr. Brown was married to Miss Alice Sawyer, of Boston, Massachusetts, who died on April 1, 1907. Mr. Brown has taken an active part in politics ever since he reached the age of discretion, and has never failed to cast his vote at an important election, with one exception, when he was away from his own State. He has served in his present office since September, 1904.

WIRT KESSLER, a successful dealer in real estate and insurance at West Milton, is postmaster of the village and has frequently in the past been called upon to serve in official capacity. He is a man of wide acquaintance and takes high rank among the foremost business men of the community.

Mr. Kessler was born in Union Township, Miami County, Ohio, in 1856, and is a son of William B. and Mary A. (Albaugh) Kessler, his father also being a native of Union Township. The family originally came to the United States from Switzerland, and the grandfather of the subject of this record was among the pioneer settlers of Union Township, Miami County, Ohio, having come from the state of New York. William B. Kessler followed farming throughout his active career and died on the home farm at the age of eighty years and seven months. He was at one time a very extensive land owner. He and his wife were parents of eight children, of whom seven sons and a daughter are now living.

Wirt Kessler was educated in the public schools and in the normal school at Ada, Ohio, receiving a thorough educational training. He engaged in teaching and farming until 1890, when he came to West Milton and entered upon his duties as township clerk. He served in that capacity seven years, and was also mayor of the village for a period of six years, giving the public a good and efficient business administration. He then engaged in the real estate and insurance business, representing many of the strongest fire, accident and sick benefit companies in existence, among them being The Home Insurance Company, New York Underwriters, the Royal

Insurance Company, the North American, the National, the Springfield, the German-American and the Etna. He has served as postmaster of West Milton continuously since 1898.

Mr. Kessler was united in marriage with Miss Harriet Corner and they are parents of the following children: Maud, wife of A. S. Swank, who is a civil engineer and is at present engaged in building an irrigation plant at Hamilton, Montana; Estella, wife of W. C. Keck, a rural mail carrier at West Milton; C. Raymond, who married Edna Cassel and is employed as telegrapher by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company; and Morris, a railway mail clerk, who makes his home with his parents. In politics Mr. Kessler is a Republican. He is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity, the Knights of Pythias, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Religiously, he is a member of the Christian Church at West Milton.

H. W. SMITH, proprietor of Smith's Bakery and president of the city council at Bradford, Ohio, is one of the town's older business men and a representative of its best citizenship. Mr. Smith was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, August 23, 1852, and is a son of Christian and Susan (Williamson) Smith. The father of Mr. Smith followed house carpenter work at Buffalo, New York. In 1824 he settled in Montgomery County, Ohio, where his wife died in 1855. His death occurred years later in Miami County.

H. W. Smith was taken to the home of his great-uncle, Henry Williamson, when his mother died, and he was reared on a farm near Greenville, Darke County, and attended the district schools. In 1873 he accompanied his great-uncle and family to Bradford, where the uncle subsequently died, and in May, 1875, he embarked in business for himself and has continued here ever since and for twenty-five years of this period he has been engaged in the baking business. He has always been one of the city's most progressive citizens and has served usefully in many public offices. For ten years he served as a member of the school board, and for eighteen years he has been a member of the city council and at present is president of this municipal body, an office for which his good judgment and civic pride particularly fit him. Mr. Smith married Harriet Yount, a daughter of Enos Yount, and they have one child, Claude C.

Claude C. Smith is the electrician who has charge of the Bradford-Gettysburg Electric Lighting Company and is a young man who has honorably borne the name of his country and his State into far distant parts of the world. He was born on a farm five miles north of Bradford, February 21, 1877, and was educated in the Miami County schools. He spent seven years of his life in the United States Navy and that his early inclinations were in the direction of a military life, indicated the influence of heredity. His great-great-grandfather, John Williamson, was a Revolutionary patriot. His great-grandfather, Henry Williamson, came down the Ohio river on a flat-boat, landing at Fort Washington, near the present city of Cincinnati, and he was an Indian fighter under General Wayne, fought in the War of 1812, under General Harrison, did a soldier's duty in the Mexican War and lived to send two of his sons into the Civil War, while two of the other sons served in the Mexican War. Doubtless his loyal heart would have been cheered had he witnessed his great-grandson's services during the Spanish-American War, in the Philippine Islands and in China, when greater dangers were encountered and more complete victories gained than the old veteran had ever known. Claude C. Smith joined the navy at Norfolk, Virginia, in July, 1897, and was assigned to the battleship Nashville, which, in the following month, was attached to the West Indian Station, and he was one of the first gun crew that fired the opening shot in the Spanish-American War. He was made chief of the electrical department of the battleship, made the tour around the world, is a veteran of the Philippine insurrection and of the Boxer uprising in China, and later was one of the electricians on the battleship Kentucky, under Admiral Evans. With credit he retired from the navy in October, 1904, since when his home has been at Bradford. He married Miss Emma Brookman and they have had three children, Harriet, Harvey and Charles, Harvey being deceased.

A. M. FRY, a leading general contractor at Piqua, Ohio, has been a resident of this city since the spring of 1890 and has thoroughly identified himself with its interests. He was born in 1861, in Montgomery County, Ohio, but was reared to manhood on a farm in Darke County.

When aged twenty-one, Mr. Fry learned the carpenter trade and continued to work at it until 1888, when he began contracting at Versailles, Ohio, coming from there to Piqua, in 1890. Here he went into general contracting and has been so successful that he has easily taken a place among the leading men in that line in this section. Many of his contracts have been for large oil-mills and substantial grist-mills, and he built Mays' Opera House, the Atlas Underwear Building, the Union Underwear Building or woolen mills, the Orr & Flesh Building, the J. W. Brown Building and others at Piqua, churches and schools at Maywood, the Forest School at Troy, the Manual Training School at West Milton, the Piqua Business Men's Club Building, and some of the finest private residences in the State. Mr. Fry is interested in a business way in the French Oil-Mill Machine Works.

In 1887 Mr. Fry was married to Miss Mary A. Routson, who died in September, 1898, survived by four children—Alvin Victor, Margaret Irene, Raymond Chester and Annie Elizabeth. Mr. Fry is a member of the First Presbyterian Church, in which he is a deacon. He is connected with the Business Men's Club, and is a representative man in all that pertains to good citizenship.

P. A. YOUNT, one of the leading merchants of West Milton, Ohio, is a member of the firm of Yount and Newby, proprietors of a flourishing grocery business. He was born in Miami County, south of West Milton, in 1872, and is a son of S. K. and Mary P. (Peck) Yount. His grandfather, Elam Yount, was one of the pioneers of Miami County, coming from Pennsylvania in the early days.

S. K. Yount in his early days followed farming, but for many years has followed carpentering and operated a threshing machine, making his home in West Milton. He married Mary P. Peck and they have two sons, P. A. Yount; and T. O. Yount, who follows farming and is located near Rockford.

P. A. Yount received his schooling at West Milton, and then began his business career as a clerk in the store of which he is now one of the proprietors. In 1896 he went to Indiana and there opened a grocery, which he ran for three years. Upon his return to West Milton he purchased the interest of H. A. Ireland in the business of the firm of Ireland & Smithman. Mr. Smithman later sold his interest to Mr. L. C. Newby, and the firm name became Yount & Newby and has continued as such to the present time. They originally had a stock of hardware, which they sold out to Mr. E. T. Wenger, and have since conducted a grocery exclusively. They are located opposite the post office, in the old Randall Building, and carry a large stock of goods, such as their extensive patronage warrants. Mr. Yount was united in marriage with Miss Stella Cress of Miami County, and they have one son, Howard, who is attending the public schools. Politically, Mr. Yount is a Republican and served five years as a member of the village council. He was elected treasurer of West Milton in 1908, and is now capably discharging the duties of that office. Fraternally, he is a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the Masons.

JACOB B. STICHTER, general farmer and representative citizen of Newton Township, who owns one farm of seventy-six acres and has a one-half interest in a second farm, of eighty acres, both situated in Newton Township, was born in Clark County, Ohio, August 18, 1850. His parents were Jacob and Louisa (Brown) Stichter.

Jacob Stichter was born in Union County, Pennsylvania, and came to Ohio in early manhood and for some years operated a distillery at Medway, Clark County, in partnership with his brother. After his marriage he settled on a rented farm near New Carlisle and in 1856 moved from there to Miami County, buying 160 acres of land in Newton Township. It was then a poor property with no improvement on it except a little log cabin. He took possession of that and went right to work to clear up his land and by 1860 was able to build a comfortable residence and good barn. He did all the draining necessary on this and his other land, constantly adding to his possessions until he had 400 acres. He was a member of the Christian Church and was a man of many sterling virtues. He died in 1880 and both he and wife were interred in the Pleasant Hill Cemetery. He married Louisa Brown and they had eight children—William, Mary, Jacob B., Amelia, Sarah, Frank, Rebecca and Margaret.

Jacob B. Stichter, in his boyhood, lived one and one-quarter miles from the nearest school, which was at Pattytown, but he was willing to walk that distance as he was anxious to secure an education. He worked for his father until he was twenty years old and since then has been engaged in attending to his own affairs. For six years following his marriage, he resided on his father's farm in Newton Township and then bought the farm on which he has lived ever since. He cleared almost the whole of the seventy-six acres and has all under cultivation with the exception of five acres of second growth timber. Recognizing the value of drainage, Mr. Stichter has put down about 1,000 rods of tile, and the large returns he gets from his land proves the practical value of the early expenditure. His farm is one of the best in Newton Township. He grows tobacco, corn, wheat, oats and hay.

In February, 1877, Mr. Stichter was married to Miss Mary Mullany, a daughter of Patrick and Catherine Mullany, and they have had five children, namely: Charles, who is assistant editor of the Dayton *Journal;* James, who is engaged in the butchering business in Kansas; Clara and Harley, both residing at home; and Stella; who is now deceased. Mr. Stichter is a Republican in politics and has served as turnpike superintendent for twenty-five years but has refused other public offices which his friends in the township have offered him.

F. M. COPPOCK is a well-to-do agriculturist of Union Township, Miami County, Ohio, and resides three-quarters of a mile southwest of Ludlow Falls on the place entered by his great-grandfather at the time of his arrival in 1804. He was born in Franklin Township, Darke County, Ohio, in 1857, and is a son of David C. and Emeline (Niles) Coppock, and a grandson of James Coppock.

James Coppock, the grandfather, was born in South Carolina in 1799 and was five or six years old when brought by his parents to Miami County, Ohio, in 1804. He lived here the remainder of his days and died on the home place in 1867, at the age of sixty-eight years. He married Jane Huntsman and they were parents of twelve children, of whom eight were sons.

David Clark Coppock, father of the subject of this record, was born on the home farm in Union Township, April 13, 1832. He attended the primitive schools of that early period and then followed farming until he entered the Union Army during the Civil War. He enlisted in 1862 as a member of Company G, 110th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served with credit until the war closed. He then engaged in stock dealing, in which he was expert, and followed that business successfully during the remainder of his active career. In 1882, he moved west to Nebraska and still later to Oklahoma, where he passed his declining years in retirement. He and his wife both died in that territory in 1895. They had the following children: One who died in infancy; F. M. Coppock, whose name heads this record; Angenetta, wife of W. Honeyman; and Lewis M., a resident of Iowa.

F. M. Coppock attended the public schools of Union Township and during his early years farmed for a time. He then became identified with stone quarrying, an industry in which he continued until 1907. For sixteen years he operated a quarry himself and on the date mentioned closed it down and turned his attention to farming. The place on which he lives consists of seven acres and has been in the family name since the pioneer days when the family became established here. He also is the owner of two other tracts in Union Township, one of forty acres and the other of twelve acres. He erected the fine home in which he lives and has a highly improved property.

Mr. Coppock was united in marriage with Miss Sarah A. Ehlers, a daughter of Otto Ehlers, and they have three children: Samuel, who is a conductor in the railway service; Mary; and Robert. Religiously, they are members of the Friend

Church. He is a Republican in politics and takes a deep interest in the success of that party. In fraternal affiliation, he is a member of the Knights of Pythias.

ALBERT W. McCUNE, postmaster at Bradford, Ohio, of which place he is a leading business citizen, was born on a farm in Darke County, Ohio, April 30, 1859, and is a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Jay) McCune.

Thomas McCune came to Ohio in 1830, from Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, choosing his home in Adams Township, near Gettysburg, Darke County, Ohio, where previous settlers from the same section had perpetuated the old familiar home names. Thomas McCune married in Ohio, the Jay family having come also from Pennsylvania in Elizabeth's girlhood. They continued to be farming people of Darke County during the remainder of their lives.

Albert W. McCune was educated in Adams Township and was reared on the home farm, where he continued to live for three years after his marriage, coming then to Bradford. He was employed as a clerk in a local store for several years and then went into a mercantile business under the firm name of Johnston & McCune, but when he was appointed postmaster, he sold out his mercantile interests and assumed his public duties on June 1, 1897. He is secretary and one of the directors of the Bradford Building and Loan Association and for fifteen years has been a member of the Bradford School Board, formerly being secretary and treasurer of this body.

On December 19, 1880, Mr. McCune was married to Miss Ella Westfall, a daughter of John Westfall, of Greenville Township, Darke County, and they have had six children, namely: Harley, who died aged six years; Chester; Forrest, who died aged eighteen months; Cora, who married Albert Kenneth Little, an attorney at Columbus, and has two children, Delmas and Bernard; and Elizabeth and Fern. Chester McCune, the second son of the above family, met an accidental death while performing his duties as a brakeman in the railroad yards at Dayton, on December 6, 1906. He left a young wife, formerly Miss Dessie Carter, and an infant son, Chester Albert. The cutting off of this young man when only twenty-two years of age and with the brightest prospects of a happy and useful life before him, was a crushing domestic grief and aroused general sympathy. Mr. McCune is a leading member of the Bradford Presbyterian Church, serving as a deacon and also on the board of trustees. Fraternally he is an Odd Fellow, a Knight of Pythias and a Red Man.

G. L. COMPTON, D. D. S., whose entire professional career has been spent in West Milton, enjoys a large and lucrative practice. He was born on the old Compton homestead in Union Township, Miami County, Ohio, in 1881, and is a son of Isaac and Rachel (Coate) Compton. Henry Coate, grandfather of the subject of this record, was a native of North Carolina and moved to Miami County, Ohio, when the country was still in a wild and undeveloped state. He settled on the farm in Newton Township, which has continued in the family name to the present time.

Isaac Compton was born on the home farm in Union Township and engaged in farming throughout his active career. He is now a respected citizen of West Milton, where he is living in retirement. He married Rachel Coate, and to them were born four children: William H. of West Milton; Omer, who is farming in Union Township; Alice, who died at the age of four years; and Dr. G. L. Compton.

G. L. Compton attended the common schools of the township and the West Milton High School. After his graduation from that institution he completed a three years' course in dentistry at Ohio Medical University, from which he in 1905 received the degree of D. D. S. Immediately thereafter he opened an office in the building of Compton Brothers at West Milton, where he has since been in active practice. Dr. Compton was married September 6, 1905, to Miss Anna E. Miller, a daughter of Jefferson Miller, who is engaged in carpentering at West Milton. They have one daughter, Miriam, who was born September 17, 1906. In religious attachment, they are members of the Christian Church. The Doctor is a Republican in politics. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

J. W. STAHL, senior member of the mercantile firm of Stahl & Patty, is a leading business citizen of Bradford and an experienced man in his line, having been identified with it during almost the whole of his mature life. Mr. Stahl was born on a farm in Darke County, Ohio, June 3, 1858, and is a son of Samuel and Susan (Longenecker) Stahl. His father was a soldier of the Civil War, one who gave his life for the perpetuation of the Union. Just prior to the opening of that war, Samuel Stahl had established himself at Gettysburg, in Darke County, in the mercantile business, but he put aside all personal interests and entered the army. He served with credit until near the close of the Rebellion, when he was taken sick and died in a military hospital at Nashville, Tennessee, aged thirty-five years.

When J. W. Stahl was a little over ten years of age, he went to live with a farmer, John Mummert, in Adams Township, Darke County, and continued to make that his home until he was married, in 1883. In 1889 he embarked in the mercantile business at Bradford, in partnership with Mr. Brumbaugh, under the style of Brumbaugh & Stahl, which continued for five years, when Mr. Brumbaugh sold his interest to Boyer Brothers and the business name became Stahl & Boyer Brothers. Two years later, Mr. Stahl sold out and remained out of business from 1896 until 1900, when he again entered into merchandising. With his present partner, Mr. Patty, he engaged one room in the Arnold Block and there handled dry goods and groceries. Increasing patronage soon demanded more room, and storage quarters were secured in the rear, but a grocery department was soon added in order to accommodate customers and that room had to be utilized for the new stock. In August, 1906, still better facilities had to be provided and another room was added in which a stock of clothing and gents' furnishings were placed and in addition to these different well equipped rooms the firm has secured three rooms on the second floor which they devote to carpets and draperies. In view of this expansion the time is not far distant when still larger quarters will have to be secured for a firm that is in so prosperous a condition. Both proprietors attend to customers and three sales people are also employed and more during the holiday seasons.

On March 4, 1883, Mr. Stahl was married to Miss Maria Tobias, and they have four children—Luther R., Harley T., Margie Olive and Chalmer F. Miss Margie Olive is a graduate of the Bradford High School and is a successful teacher at Bradford. Mr. Stahl and family are members of the Presbyterian Church. He is identified with the order of Odd Fellows.

CHARLES A. SCHNELL, one of the highly respected older citizens of Troy, now living retired in his pleasant home at No. 347 South Mulberry Street, is a native of Germany, having been born March 15, 1830, in Saxe Coburg. It will be remembered that the brother of Prince Albert, husband of the late Queen Victoria, of England, was Ernest the Second, Duke of Saxe Coburg, and Mr. Schnell remembers seeing that admirable sovereign in her girlhood.

In 1853, when twenty-three years of age, Mr. Schnell came to America and lived for a short time at Paterson, New Jersey, later making his home in the city of Baltimore, Maryland. There he learned photography and subsequently opened a photographic studio in Washington, D. C., which he conducted for one year, when he lost everything by fire. In 1858 he transferred his business interests to Troy, Ohio, and in May, 1860, he moved to Tippecanoe. In 1862 he enlisted in the Federal Army, becoming a member of Company E, 106th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and during his three years of continuous service was attached to the Army of the Cumberland. He enlisted as a private and through soldierly qualities became first sergeant of his company, being mustered out with that rank.

Upon his return from the army, Mr. Schnell again located at Tippecanoe City, where he carried on photography until 1871. He then returned to Troy, where he purchased a gallery on the Public Square and continued in the photographic business there for thirty years. His work was highly artistic in character and his patrons came from all over Miami County. In 1860 Mr. Schnell was married to Miss Barbara Eitel, and they have three children: Charles F., who is in the plumbing business at Troy; Mary, who is the wife of David Metz, of Norwalk, Ohio; and George V., who is also in the plumbing business at Troy. Mr. and Mrs. Schnell are members of the Lutheran Church. He is identified with the Grand Army of the Republic.

E. W. YOUNT, who owns a good thirty-two-acre farm about four and a half miles northwest of Milton, was born in 1861, one mile west of Tippecanoe City. His father was a native of Montgomery County, where after a short life spent in agriculture, he died at the age of twenty-three years, at which time the subject of this sketch was eighteen months old.

E. W. Yount was reared in Miami County, and after his school days were over he took up farming for an occupation, at first renting a farm. In 1894 he bought his present place, on which he built a house and made other useful improvements. In addition to general farming, he raises tobacco, and also carries on a general blacksmith business. By dint of his own exertions he has become one of the prosperous citizens of Union Township and is a man respected by his neighbors for his industry and character. In politics he is a Republican and he was elected trustee of the township in 1905 and in 1907, being now an incumbent of that office. In the fall of 1908 he ran for the office of county commissioner but owing to adverse conditions was defeated. He is a member of the Friends' Church. Mr. Yount married Lauretta Coates of Union Township and they have three children—Harry, Frank, and Lena.

WILLIAM G. ELLIOTT, who is in partnership with Frank Palmer in the operation of a coal yard at Laura, Union Township, was born in Scotland, June 4, 1882, a son of Andrew and Marian (Gilchrist) Elliott. His father, also a native of Scotland, came to the United States in March, 1887, locating in Pennsylvania. He is now engaged in coal mining in Indiana County. He and his wife have been the parents of a large family, numbering seventeen children.

The subject of this sketch was a child less than five years old when he accompanied his parents to America. He was educated in the schools of Pennsylvania and subsequently worked for three years in a glass factory and eight years in the coal mines of Pennsylvania, or until May 7, 1904, when the firm of which he is now a member was formed. In addition to coal, the business includes the handling of all kinds of tiling, cement, plaster, etc., besides farm implements, the office of the concern being located on the Big Four tracks. Mr. Elliott is doing a thriving business and is numbered among the rising citizens of the village. Politically he is a Republican. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias and the Knights of Malta, and is a member of the Christian Church. He married Alice Palmer, a daughter of Frank Palmer, and has three children—Frank, Marion, and William, who bid fair to keep up the credit of the family name.

JOSEPH W. MEANS, M. D., a prominent citizen of Troy, who is well known for his professional ability throughout this section of Ohio, was born in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, in 1855, his parents, Joseph and Margaret Means, being both of German descent. Having completed his literary education in Pennsylvania Academy, he came to Ohio and entered the scientific department of the National Normal University at Lebanon, from which he was graduated in 1877. The next seven years of his life were spent in teaching school, and he proved himself an able educator; but not caring to continue longer in that occupation, he took up the study of his present profession and was graduated from the Pulte School of Medicine in 1881. Wishing, however, to acquire a further theoretical knowledge of this most difficult science, he matriculated in the Chicago Homeopathic College, where he took a post-graduate course in 1898. In 1897 he was elected president of the American Association of Orificial Surgery in Chicago and in 1900 he became president of the Homeopathic Medical Society of Ohio. The doctor has been a resident of Troy since 1881 and in that time has proved his value, not only as a professional man of high standing, but also as an intelligent citizen who keeps a close watch on public affairs. In 1899 he served as president of the City Council of Troy, being elected from the First Ward. He has made a close study of economics and it was through his influence that the city of Troy purchased the electric light plant and thereby reduced the price of current from twenty cents per thousand watts to eight cents. The Doctor is a stanch advocate of municipal ownership. In politics he is a Republican and he served for two years as coroner of Miami County. His labors on behalf of the city have been markedly beneficial and have caused him to be regarded as one of Troy's most useful and representative citizens.

Dr. Means was married, in 1881, to Miss Eola F. Roberts, of Christiansburg, Ohio, a daughter of George W. and Diantha (Corbley) Roberts. Of this union there is one daughter, Myrtle, who was born July 27, 1883. She is the wife of Charles F. Bryant, a druggist of Cincinnati, Ohio. Fraternally, the Doctor is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias.

CHARLES C. SCHULTZ is a prosperous farmer of Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is the owner of a farm of eighty acres located in Section 3. He was born near Harrisburg, Montgomery County, Ohio, October 21, 1867, and is a son of William and Sophia (Trost) Schultz.

William Schultz lived in Montgomery County, Ohio, until some years after his marriage, then moved to Newton Township, Miami County, where his death occurred in 1882, while he was still in middle life. He was buried at Pleasant Hill Cemetery. Religiously he was a member of the Lutheran Church. He was a Democrat in politics. He married Sophia Trost, by whom he had five children, but two of whom grew up, namely, Charles C. and William J., who married Minnie Metzger. Mrs. Schultz formed a second union with Sebastian Holfinger, of Covington, and they have a son, Harry.

Charles C. Schultz first went to school near Vandalia, and after the removal of his parents to Miami County he attended school near Pleasant Hill, in Newton Township. He worked on the home farm until he reached his majority, then worked out by the month, his first summer being spent on a farm near Covington, and the second on one near Troy. After his marriage he conducted operations on his mother's farm for eleven years, then moved to his present farm, which his mother purchased for him and his brother. He later purchased his brother's interest. It was part of the R. M. Kaufman farm, and Mr. Schultz erected all of the buildings now standing on the place. He cleared eight acres of the tract, laid about 350 rods of tile for drainage, and has made other important improvements. He follows general farming, and is meeting with good success.

October 30, 1892, Mr. Schultz was joined in marriage with Miss Eva Reed, a daughter of William and Lucinda Reed, and they have one son, Omer, who is attending the common schools. In religious attachment they are members of the Christian Church. He is a Democrat in politics, and served two years as church trustee.

JAMES W. STAUFFER, whose accidental death on June 20, 1902, caused great regret throughout this section, was born near Dayton, Ohio, December 28, 1850. His early industrial years were devoted to farming. On August 18, 1872, he married

Abby Jones, who was a daughter of William and Elizabeth Jones, residents of this county. After his marriage he located on the old Asa Jones place, but later purchased thirty acres of land for himself. This he subsequently sold and moved on to the Georgetown Pike, in which location he engaged in the sawmill business and farming. He later bought a place there, and also built a house in Georgetown, where he resided for nine years, operating an elevator and sawmill in Laura at the same time. In 1894 he removed to the village of Laura as his place of residence. He also purchased a farm in the vicinity, which he operated, though he never resided on it. He was the employer of a large number of men, and was a thriving and prosperous citizen. In politics a Republican, he held at times a number of township offices. He was especially interested in the cause of education, and built a number of schools in the township. At one time he was a candidate for the office of county commissioner. He was a man who was always before the public, and was known far and wide as a public-spirited citizen. His death, which was due to his being run over by a train, was a great shock as well as grief to the community. His remains now repose in the old Ludlow Cemetery.

Mr. Stauffer was fraternally connected with the Knights of Pythias. He belonged to the Christian Church, and was much interested in church work. By his marriage with Abby Jones he had one child, Cora May, who married Newton Norris and resides in this township. Her husband is a farmer; they have no children. In addition to the above mentioned child, Mr. Stauffer and his wife adopted a boy Edward M. Stauffer who was born August 18, 1882, and whom they took to rear in 1884. He is now residing on a farm which the subject of this sketch gave him, and he also looks after the latter's estate. He married Edna Overcash, of Muncie, Indiana, and has one son, Glenn, who was born June 12, 1903.

ISAAC J. ROSENBERGER, a retired farmer, and a well known minister in the Church of the Brethren, is a man of considerable literary ability, and was for a period of twenty-eight years a traveling evangelist. He was born April 20, 1842, near Tiffin, Seneca County, Ohio, and is a son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Hartsough) Rosenberger.

Isaac J. Rosenberger was six years old when his parents removed to Hancock County, where his mother died four years later, and here his education was obtained in the district schools near his home. He taught in the district schools of that locality for about ten years, and during the war taught near Dayton, Ohio, for a period of three years. Subsequent to his marriage with Mary Ann Workman, a daughter of Morgan Workman, who was a retired farmer and stock dealer residing in Wooster, Ohio, he engaged in agricultural pursuits in Hancock County for one year. He then engaged in farming on a tract of land near Loudenville, Ashland County, Ohio, for four years, after which he returned to Hancock County, where he continued his residence for eleven years. In the spring of 1883 Mr. Rosenberger came to Covington, Ohio, where he and his estimable wife still reside in a comfortable home on North High Street. Here he purchased a tract of 260 acres in Newton

Township, on which he has never lived. After coming to Covington, Mr. Rosenberger took up church work and became an evangelist in the Church of the Brethren, otherwise known as the Dunkards, and for a period of twenty-eight years traveled throughout this section of the country, holding many successful meetings, his converts numbering about two thousand. Mr. Rosenberger has not devoted his entire attention to his church work, but also has literary tastes and leanings, having compiled and published a book entitled "Bible Readings and Bible Studies," and his volume on "Modern Spiritualism" is now in the hands of the publishers. He has also contributed largely to tract work, has written a number of articles on divorce and remarriage, among them being a treatise against divorce and remarriage. Mr. Rosenberger is still a minister of the local Church of the Brethren, of Covington, Ohio.

DAVID B. PENNY, who conducts the largest general store in Laura, Union Township, his place of business being located on Main Street, was born one mile west of the town, and has resided in this vicinity all his life. He is a son of D. W. Penny, who was a farmer and early settler in this section. The great grandfather of the subject of this sketch was the first settler in this locality, and the house in which he lived is still standing. The family has since remained here, and its members in general have been numbered among the enterprising and prosperous agriculturists of the county.

D. W. Penny, father of David B., farmed all his life, his place being located west of the town. He subsequently sold his farm, and is now residing in another part of the township. He married Mary Byerly, and their children are Mary, David, Minerva, Minnie and Harley, all of whom are now living.

David B. Penny, after completing his studies, engaged in agriculture on the home farm, which he subsequently purchased. He continued to operate it on his own account until he bought his present store, when he sold it and bought forty acres elsewhere located, which he still owns, and a part of which he devotes to the raising of tobacco. He has some twenty-eight acres now planted with that crop. He is also doing a thriving business in his store, carrying some $6,000 worth of stock, including hardware, dry goods, general merchandise, etc. He has an up-to-date establishment, and has acquired an excellent reputation throughout this section as a business man of honorable methods. He served the township as justice of the peace for two terms—a period of six years—showing excellent capacity in his administration of the office. His first election was in 1901, and naturally resulted in his reelection for another term. Mr. Penny married Dona Noll and has two children, Edna, now seventeen years old, and Isabel, aged five. Mr. Penny is a Republican in politics.

SIMON CLATE MORTON, superintendent of the public schools of Pleasant Hill, is well known in this community both as an educator and also as a minister, having served as pastor of the Ludlow Christian Church from 1904 to 1908. His activities at present, however, are entirely centered in his educational work, for which he is well qualified, being a college graduate and holder of several degrees. He was born November 22, 1874, at Spencerville, Ohio, and is a son of William C. and Mary Ann (Evans) Morton.

The grandfather of Mr. Morton, Thomas Morton, was a resident of Allen County, Ohio, where he died in 1884, aged seventy-nine years. He married Mary Miller and they had three children, William C., Nancy and Simon.

William C. Morton was born near Spencerville, Allen County, Ohio, October 19, 1849. He was a blacksmith at Spencerville for some years, later moved to Miami County, near Tippecanoe City, later bought forty acres of land on which he yet resides, in Staunton Township. He followed blacksmithing during the larger part of his active life, but now lives retired. In 1873 he was married to Mary Ann Evans, a daughter of Isaac and Catherine (Harter) Evans, and they had four children, Simon Clate, Frank, Alma and John. For a number of years Mr. Morton has been a deacon in the West Union Christian Church. He votes with the Republican party, but has never either sought nor accepted a political office.

Simon Clate Morton enjoyed the distinction of earning the first diploma ever issued in the public schools of Monroe Township, Miami County, after which he entered the High School at Tippecanoe City, Miami County, and following this course he taught school for two years in Union Township and then for six years was in the public schools of Monroe Township, three years of which he was superintendent of the township. During this period, on August 5, 1896, he was married to Miss Clara Bowman, a daughter of John and Amelia Bowman. To this marriage have been born eight children, namely: Edith, who is a student at Pleasant Hill; Miriam and Lorna, both of whom attend school; Amelia, Byron and Delmar, all at home; an infant son and an infant daughter, both of whom died at birth.

For five years following his marriage Mr. Morton resided on a small farm containing ten acres and then moved to Richmond, Indiana, in order to take a collegiate course at Earlham College, graduating in the class of 1903, with the degree of B. A. He then came to Pleasant Hill and took charge of the public schools at this place, finding his efforts highly appreciated. He is an earnest, thoughtful man, devoted to the work which he has made his life career, and the results of his care, management and influence can easily be seen in the high standard to which he has brought the schools of this place. In 1908 he received the Master's degree from his college, and a life certificate from the State Board of Examiners. Mr. Morton is widely known and his personal friends are numbered by the score.

HARRY IRVIN MORROW, a prominent farmer of Washington Township, who, with his two sisters, owns the old Milton Morrow farm of 200 acres, which lies along the Washington Turnpike, about two and one-half miles southwest of Piqua, was born and reared on this fine property. His parents were Milton and Clarissa (Irvin) Morrow.

The father of Mr. Morrow was also a native of Miami County, Ohio, and was born in Washington Township, on the farm which adjoins the one under consideration, on the south. During the whole of a long and exemplary life he resided in this township, where he died in 1889. He was numbered with the most highly respected citizens and successful farmers. His father, Richard Morrow, had come to Washington Township, from Pennsylvania, among the earliest settlers. Milton married Clarissa Irvin, who was born and reared about seven miles distant from Dayton. She was a widow at the time, with one son, A. W. Prugh, who is a resident of Piqua. To Milton Morrow and his wife were born three children: Emma, who married William Elliott, and resides at Piqua; and Luella and Harry Irvin. The mother of these children died in 1898.

Harry Irvin Morrow was trained in agricultural pursuits from his youth up, and is considered one of the township's most capable farmers. The family home is a commodious brick residence, which was built in 1876 and was then probably the finest country home in the township. Mr. Morrow is unmarried.

G. C. ULLERY, M. D., who is successfully engaged in the practice of medicine at West Milton, Miami County, Ohio, was born on a farm near Covington, this county, in 1880, a son of David E. and Rachel C. (Passage) Ullery. He is a grandson of David and a great-grandson of Jacob Ullery, the latter of whom was born on Chincoteague Island, off the eastern coast of Maryland, March 5, 1772, and who came to Ohio about 1810. Jacob died in Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio, August 7, 1847. He was of German descent and a member of the Dunkard, or German Baptist, Church.

David Ullery, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, February 28, 1809, and was a boy when he accompanied his parents to Miami County. He became a prosperous agriculturist of Newberry Township and was a man widely respected. He was married, March 8, 1836, to Alsey Gibbons, who was born in Wheeling, West Virginia, March 20, 1818, a daughter of James and Mary Gibbons, who were natives of Ireland. Mr. and Mrs. David Ullery were the parents of three children—Jacob, who was killed in the Battle of Atlanta, Georgia, July 21, 1864; James G., who died in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and whose wife was Nellie Surratt, a native of Tennessee; and Mary E., who died April 8, 1873. David Ullery died June 5, 1842. His wife survived him until April 8, 1856.

David E. Ullery, father of Dr. G. C. Ullery, was born on the parental homestead in Newberry Township, October 25, 1839. He was reared in the usual manner of farmer lads, attending the district schools, and receiving a good home training. While he was still a boy, his father died, and the management of the farm, comprising a quarter-section of land, passed into the hands of David's elder brother. David began work in the fields at a very early age. When the homestead was subsequently sold, disliking to see it pass wholly into the hands of strangers, he purchased 100 acres of it. In the spring of 1872 he began the operation of a sawmill, which business he followed in connection with farming for twenty-eight years. His enterprise was successfully conducted and his marked energy, perseverance and business ability enabled him to acquire a comfortable competence.

In the spring of 1861, in company with Hugh Hart, an old school friend, he started on horseback for Illinois to visit his brother, Jacob Ullery, but before they reached their destination Fort Sumter had been fired on. This news stirred the patriotic blood of these two travelers, and before reaching their journey's end they had determined to enlist. When they arrived in Illinois they found that Mr. Ullery's brother, Jacob, had already joined the army, and David became a member of the same company for three months' service. Enlisting April 22, 1861, he was assigned to Company D, Twentieth Illinois Volunteers, under Captain C. L. Paige, and afterwards re-enlisting as a veteran, served until the close of the war. He and his brother fought side by side until the Battle of Atlanta, where the brother was killed, dying on the field. The Twentieth Illinois was assigned to Gen. John A. McClernand's Division, and after the Battle of Shiloh was in the First Brigade, Third Division, under command of Gen. John A. Logan, in the Seventeenth Army Corps, under the command of Gen. McPherson. Mr. Ullery participated in the Battles of Fort Henry, Fort Donelson, Shiloh, where he was wounded by a piece of shell, and in many smaller engagements in the Corinth Campaign and around Vicksburg. He took part in the Battles of Fort Gibson and Raymond, in the latter of which he received a wound affecting the right lung, from which he never fully recovered. His subsequent time was spent in the hospital until October, 1863, when he returned to his regiment. Promoted to the rank of sergeant, he accompanied Sherman's command on the march to Meridian. In the spring of 1864 he re-enlisted and was granted a thirty-day furlough, at the end of which he joined his regiment at Springfield, Illinois. Soon after he joined Sherman's army at Ackworth, Georgia, when he took part in the Battles of Kenesaw Mountain and Atlanta, in the latter of which his regiment suffered heavy loss, Mr. Ullery's brother, Jacob, as already mentioned, being among the slain.

On July 22d, after some desperate fighting and when the Twentieth Illinois was reduced to a remnant, Mr. Ullery was captured by the enemy. He spent the time from that date until February 27, 1865, in Southern prisons, first in Andersonville, then at Savannah, Georgia; Charleston, South Carolina, and Florence, South Carolina. He was then paroled at Wilmington, North Carolina, and sent to St. Louis, subsequently going to Springfield, Illinois, where he was discharged July 13, 1865. He came home shattered in health, and weighing only seventy pounds, as a result of the hardships he had experienced.

On the 26th of August, 1865, only about a month after his return from the war, Mr. Ullery was united in marriage with Miss Rachel C. Passage, of Piqua, Ohio, who was a representative of an old pioneer family of the State. He parents were Peter and Sarah (Lines) Passage, and she was a granddaughter of Henry Passage, who was married in New York City to a Miss Claussor, a German lady. Henry Passage emigrated westward at an early day and died near New Waverly, Indiana.

Peter Passage, father of Mrs. Ullery, was born in Connecticut, in 1801, and when fourteen years of age went to New York City, where he was reared to manhood. By trade he was a cabinet maker, and at an early day he removed to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he learned surveying. He followed the latter occupation until a year prior to his marriage, which event took place in Piqua, the lady of his choice being Miss Sarah Lines, a daughter of Levi Lines. After residing for some time in Piqua, Peter Passage and his wife moved to New Carlisle, Ohio. He later worked for some time as section boss on the canal, during which time his family made their home at Houston, Shelby County, Ohio. Here his death occurred, on December 20, 1845. His widow and the family then located in Piqua, and after the marriage of her daughter to Mr. Ullery she made her home with them until she, too, was called away, in 1887, at the age of eighty-six years. She was a native of Cincinnati. Her other children were, Cinderella, who married Anthony Harp, of Polo; Elizabeth, who became the wife and then the widow of James Harp, of Piqua; Levi, who died in Fort Wayne, Indiana, about 1889; Rebecca, wife of John Sprague; Peter, who died in Polo, Ohio, in 1896; and Jennie, who married Jacob Bowers.

Mr. and Mrs. David E. Ullery, after their marriage, took up their residence in a home which he prepared on a part of the Ullery homestead, where they enjoyed many years of happiness, devoted to each other and the family. They had six children: Minnie G., now the wife of William Drees, of Covington, Ohio; James Ellison, who died at the age of two and a half years; Sadie E., wife of William Orr, of Piqua; Clifford C., who died at the age of eighteen; Joseph C., and Gustin C., whose name appears at the head of this article. The father of this family died in 1902, at the age of about sixty-three years. He had taken a prominent part in public affairs, serving capably in various township offices. For fourteen years he was a member of the School Board, during which time he accomplished much for the cause of education locally. For eleven years also he was township trustee. He was elected real estate appraiser of Newberry Township in the fall of 1899, without opposition. In politics he was a stalwart Republican. He was a member of the Christian Church, and of Langston Post, G. A. R., at Covington. He was a man of genial personality, widely popular, and was by general consent classed among the enterprising and honored citizens of his native county.

Gustin C. Ullery received his education in the schools of Covington and subsequently became a student in the Medical Department of the Indiana University, from which he was graduated in 1907. He then located for practice in West Milton, entering into association with Dr. H. R. Pearson. This connection lasted nine months, since which time Dr. Ullery has practiced alone, his office being conveniently located on Main Street. He married Vera Elizabeth Douglass, a daughter of D. F. Douglass, of West Milton, and they are the parents of one child, a daughter, Virginia. Politically Dr. Ullery is a Republican. He belongs to the Sons of Veterans, Col. J. C. Ullery Camp, No. 20, of Covington; also to the Masons. He is a member of the Christian Church. Though Dr. Ullery has not been long in the practice of his profession, he has already proved that he is a capable physician and surgeon. He is a close student and there can be little doubt that as the years go by he will be found well abreast of Twentieth Century progress in medical science. As a man and citizen he is held in high esteem by all who know him.

BENJAMIN F. LOXLEY, Jr., is a prominent farmer and dairyman of Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, where he owns a splendid farm of 122 acres, located in Section 3. He was born in Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio, October 30, 1872, and is a son of Benjamin F. and Phoebe Ann (Kaylor) Loxley.

Benjamin F. Loxley, Sr., who resides about half a mile north of Bradford, in Newberry Township, is one of the most substantial men of that vicinity. He formerly owned about 700 acres of land, but with the exception of 240 acres which he retains, sold it off to his children. He was born at West Alexander, Preble County, Ohio, April 18, 1834, and attended school near Lexington. He was united in marriage with Phoebe Ann Kaylor, who was a daughter of Benjamin and Mary Elizabeth Kaylor. She died December 24, 1874, and left the following children—Ida, Charles, Ella, Lucy, Amanda, Mina and Benjamin F., Jr. Mrs. Loxley was buried in Zion Church Cemetery in Preble County. Mr. Loxley formed a second union with Sallie Miller, a daughter of Michael and Mary Miller, and they have had the following children—Samuel, Nora, Jesse, Edward, Isaiah, Jennie, Jonas and Jeremiah. Religiously he is a devout member of the Dunkard Church. He is a Democrat in politics.

Benjamin F. Loxley, Jr., attended school at Blind Corners, and at an early age helped farm the home place. After he had reached maturity he worked for his father by the month until his marriage, in 1894. He then began farming the 160-acre farm belonging to his wife's mother, in Newton Township, and so continued for three years. In 1898 he purchased eighty acres of that farm, to which he later added forty-two acres from the farm of Andrew Williams. He erected all the buildings on the latter tract, the residence on which is occupied by the man he employs to farm the place. He has repaired the buildings on the eighty-acre tract, erected a cattle shed and an implement shed, and laid many rods of tiling for drainage. It is under a high state of cultivation and is excellent wheat land, its yearly yield during the past decade varying between thirty and thirty-seven and a half bushels per acre. He has ten acres in tobacco each year, and has a good tobacco shed. He has engaged in dairying for the past five years, furnishing Bradford with about 10,000 gallons of milk a year. He is quite a large stock raiser, making a specialty of Durham and Holstein cattle and a high grade of horses.

December 25, 1894, Mr. Loxley was united in marriage with Mina Kauffman, a daughter of George and Rebecca Kauffman, and the following children were born to them—Helen; Lawson; George; Ray; Margaret; and Lillian. Religiously they are members of the Christian Church, of which he is a trustee. He is a Democrat in politics.

E. T. WENGER, who has a large and well established hardware business at West Milton, Miami County, Ohio, came to this village in January, 1909, but in the brief period which has since elapsed has become well acquainted, and is firmly established in the good will of the people of the community. He was born in Darke County, Ohio, in 1867, and was one of eight children born to I. S. and Letitia (Thomas) Wenger. His father followed farming in Darke County for many years, and is now a prominent retired citizen of New Madison.

E. T. Wenger attended the public schools of Darke County, after which he farmed the home place for a time. He then embarked in the hardware business at Eldorado, Preble County, continuing for six years. He was then engaged in a similar business at Lewisburg five years, and in January, 1909, moved to West Milton, where he purchased the hardware store of Yout & Newby. He carries a complete general line of hardware, paints and oils, and the usual side lines, and occupies two stories and a basement of a building located across from the post office. He has a finely arranged store, and enjoys a liberal patronage at the hands of the people.

Mr. Wenger was first united in marriage with Miss Kate Minich, of Preble County, Ohio, who died in September, 1906, leaving two children, Russell and Pearl. In October, 1908, he formed a second union with Miss Alma Albert, and they reside in a comfortable home in West Milton. Religiously, they are members of the New Lutheran Church. Politically, the subject of this sketch is independent, always giving his support to the man best fitted for the office. Fraternally, he is a member of the Knights of Pythias.

JOHN H. MILLER, who comes of a prominent old family of Miami County, Ohio, has been a resident of the county all his life and of Washington Township since 1869. He has 118¾ acres of land, located on the Piqua and Lockington Pike, about three miles north of Piqua. He was born in Spring Creek Township, Miami County, December 26, 1842, and is a son of Mathias and Sabina (Hawthorne) Miller, a grandson of Abraham Miller, and a great-grandson of Mathias Miller, who was a Pennsylvania German and a soldier under Captain Bundy in the Revolutionary War.

Abraham Miller, above named, was born in Pennsylvania, and became one of the earliest pioneers of Miami County, Ohio, settling on Honey Creek, south of Fletcher. Mathias Miller, father of the subject of this record, was born in Miami County, Ohio, and lived here until his death. His widow moved to Piqua, where she subsequently died. Mathias Miller was married to Sabina Hawthorne, who was born in St. Mary's, Ohio, but was of an early Miami County family. Her father, John Hawthorne, was a native of Ireland, but about the year 1816 settled on what for a long time was known as the Turk farm, on St. Mary's Pike, in Washington Township, Miami County.

John H. Miller was reared on the home farm in Spring Creek Township, and has been identified with farming since his boyhood days. He was married late in 1868, and the following year purchased his present farm in Washington Township. He in that year erected a fine brick house, which still stands on the place, and set about making one of the best improved properties of the township. He is a man of considerable native ability, and has always been successful in his business affairs.

December 17, 1868, Mr. Miller was joined in marriage with Miss Annie Archer, who was reared in Allen County, Indiana, and was a daughter of William Archer. Her death occurred February 2, 1900. Their marriage resulted in the birth of seven children, as follows: One who died in infancy; Frank M., who is married and lives in Lockington; Harry E., who died at the age of twenty-six years; Erlon, ticket agent for the Pere Marquette Railroad at New Richmond, Michigan, who is married and has two daughters, Hortense and Jeanette; S. Bertram, of Boies City, Iowa, who is married and has a daughter, Mary Catherine; Cloyd, who lives at home and operates the home farm; and Florence, who died in 1898. Mr. Miller is a man of wide acquaintance, and is most highly esteemed.

JOSIAH FILBEY, a well known farmer of Union Township, Miami County, Ohio, is located on the old home place of 74½ acres, situated about one mile north of West Milton. He was born in West Milton March 18, 1850, and is a son of George and Barbara (Folckemer) Filbey, who were for many years prominent in the vicinity of West Milton.

George Filbey was born in Berks County, Pennsylvania, April 9, 1809, and there learned the trade of a harnessmaker. In 1833 he opened a harness shop in Wrightsville, Pennsylvania, which he conducted for three years, and then moved to Jefferson County, in the same state. He moved west to Galion, Ohio, and conducted a shop for one year, then located on a farm in the vicinity of that city. After farming there for three years, he in 1849 moved to West Milton, Miami County, Ohio, where he followed his trade until 1870, the year in which he retired to his farm in Union Township, one mile north of the village. There he lived until his death, which occurred April 25, 1890. He was one of the best known men in this part of the county, and was highly respected and esteemed by every one. He was married to Barbara Folckemer, who was born at Shrewsbury, Pennsylvania, where her father was engaged as a brick maker; she died on this farm January 9, 1892. They had the following children: Oliver, who was born in 1833 and died in 1904; Samuel, who died in infancy; Ellen, who was born in 1837 and died in 1895; William, who was born in 1840 and died May 14, 1863; Rebecca, who was born in 1842 and died August 6, 1906; George, who was born April 7, 1845, and is engaged in the harness business at West Milton; Frank, who was born September 14, 1847, and is with his brother in the harness business at West Milton; Josiah; and Margaret, who was born in 1853 and lives with her brother, Josiah, on the home farm, a part of which she owns. William Filbey, who died during the Civil War, was a soldier, and was a member of Company D, Ninety-fourth Regiment, O. Vol. Inf.

Josiah Filbey was educated in the schools of West Milton, after which he turned his attention to farming. He has always lived on the home place, and successfully carries on general farming and tobacco growing. He also has dealt quite extensively in horses. He is a liberal and broad-minded man, and takes a deep interest in all that pertains to the welfare and advancement of the community. He is a Republican in politics, but has never been a seeker for office. In religious attachment he and Miss Filbey are members of the Presbyterian Church. He also is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias at West Milton.

AARON WELLBAUM, one of Newton Township's most respected citizens, now living retired on his farm of forty acres, located in Sections 10 and 15, has resided here for more than forty-three years. He was born October 15, 1830, in Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of David and Catherine (Hittle) Wellbaum.

David Wellbaum was born in 1800, in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and accompanied his parents to Ohio. In later years he frequently told of passing through Dayton, which was then a little settlement of three log houses. The Wellbaums secured Government land in Miami County, and the old sheepskin deed is still preserved which entitled them to four quarter sections near the Stillwater River. David Wellbaum assisted his father in the clearing of the land, and came into possession of a part of it. This he sold in 1851, and moved to Illinois, where he died in 1861. He married Catherine Hittle, a daughter of Nicholas and Eva Hittle, and they had eleven children: Susan, Annie, John, Elizabeth, Aaron, Silas, Catherine, Jackson, Richard, Martha and Lavina. The mother of this family died in 1865. Both parents were worthy members of the Christian Church. In politics, the father was a Democrat.

Aaron Wellbaum attended school in Newton Township in his boyhood, and remained with his father until 1851, and then accompanied the family to Illinois. He was not satisfied, however, in the new surroundings, and after sixteen months came back to Newton Township, and has lived in this locality ever since. He worked for different farmers, assisting them in clearing up their lands and in farming until 1869, when he came to his present property. He had all the land to clear and all the improvements to make. Before getting his land into its present fertile condition, he found it advisable to put in some 400 rods of tile, in that way making perfect drainage. For many years Mr. Wellbaum operated his farm with much success, only recently permitting himself to retire from active labor and enter upon the enjoyment of the rest that has been well earned.

On November 14, 1858, Mr. Wellbaum was married to Miss Elizabeth Deeter, a daughter of Daniel H. and Mary Ann Deeter, and they have had a family of thirteen children bearing, respectively, the following names: Daniel, Catherine, Mary Ann, Joseph, Lydia and Jane (twins), Martha, Samuel, Adeline, Elizabeth, Daisy, Amanda and Lovaly. Sickness and death have come into the family circle at different times, and four of the children have passed out of this life, these being Daniel, Mary Ann, Joseph and Lovaly. Mr. Wellbaum and family are members of the German Baptist Church. He has always cast his vote with the Democratic party.

C. M. ALBAUGH is owner and proprietor of the West Milton Lumber Company, at West Milton, Ohio, and has the largest establishment of the kind in this section, his office and yard being located at the intersection of Hamilton Street and the C., H. & D. Railroad. He was born in Miami County, Ohio, in 1860, his grandfather being one of the earliest settlers of the county, locating in the vicinity of West Milton.

B. F. Albaugh, father of the subject of this record, was also born in Miami County, and is now living on a farm near Covington. He has always followed farming, and in addition engaged in teaching school for some thirty-five years. He was married to Priscilla Mendenhall, who was born and reared near West Milton, in

DAVID L. FACE

Miami County, and they became parents of six sons and three daughters.

C. M. Albaugh attended the district schools, and was graduated from Covington High School, after which he attended Ohio State University for two years. After leaving that institution, he farmed for a time, then for nine years was in the railway postal service. Upon giving up that position he conducted a lumber yard at Bellefontaine, Ohio, for two years, in partnership with a brother. In 1905 he moved to West Milton, where he purchased the lumber yard of Joseph Murphy, conducting it successfully until June 22, 1908, when it was destroyed by fire. The same year he erected his present splendid plant, the largest and most complete in this part of the county. He carries all kinds of soft lumber, sashes and doors, and general building materials, and enjoys a liberal patronage at the hands of the people of the vicinity.

Mr. Albaugh was united in marriage with Miss Minnie Lilley, of Columbus, and they have two children: Bertha, who completed a musical course in Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, and is now giving instructions in music; and Lilley, who acts as bookkeeper for her father. Politically, he is a Republican. He is a member of the Masonic Fraternity, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Religiously, he and his wife are members of the Christian Church.

DAVID LOUIS FACE, deceased, was, for many years one of Covington's best known citizens and one who will surely be remembered long after many of those who, during their span of life, made much larger pretentions. He was born at Covington, Ohio, February 6, 1851, and died at his comfortable home here, November 8, 1906, at the age of fifty-five years, nine months and two days. He had survived both parents and his two brothers. He was a son of Louis and Elizabeth (Lindsay) Face.

Mr. Face obtained a good common school education in his native city and when eighteen years of age, adopted the stone quarry business, in which his father was engaged. For some years he was at work on the south side of Covington but later became interested in his quarry west of Covington, which he continued to operate until the close of his life and which enterprise is still continued by his widow.

At Xenia, Ohio, on January 20, 1886, Mr. Face was married to Miss Margaret Pierce, who is a daughter of Henry and Ann Jane (Helmer) Pierce, old residents of Greene County, and a great-granddaughter of Henry Hill, of New York, who served as a drummer boy in the Revolutionary War. Through this ancestor, Mrs. Face is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Mrs. Face was born in Champaign County, Ohio, but she was reared in Greene County, and since her marriage has been a resident of Miami County and is a very highly esteemed member of society at Covington. To this marriage no children were born, but Mr. and Mrs. Face reared and carefully educated an orphan niece.

In the leading ideas of his life, the late David Louis Face was a great and good man, one who was fearlessly true to his convictions and at all times outspoken in denouncing people and methods which did not come up to his ideas of right and honest living. No one ever came into close contact with him, however, without being convinced of the real integrity of his motives and if, at times, his language was more forcible than elegant, the ring of real conviction was ever present. No more generous man ever lived in Covington, benevolence flowed from right and left hand, and the sum of his charities will never be fully known to his fellow citizens, hundreds of whom were benefited by him on many occasions. He was notably loyal to his friends and to his city and while he was fearless in his condemnation of what he believed to be questionable in either, he gave warm-hearted support to both private objects and public measures in which he saw genuine worth. During the later years of his life bodily affliction reduced his great strength but in no way changed his noble nature or lessened his tenderness to his devoted wife and niece, who was almost a daughter.

Mr. Face had not united with any religious body but he had accepted the truths of Christianity and in June, 1902, had been baptized. He was a member of the order of Knights of Pythias and his funeral services at the cemetery were conducted with their imposing ritual.

W. F. CANTWELL, editor and proprietor of the Covington *Gazette*, was born in the city of New York, and learned the printer's trade in the East. Coming west, he worked in Cincinnati until 1883, in association with his brother, the late Robert Cantwell, and then came to Covington. The brothers purchased the *Gazette* from W. A. Browne, now of Greenville, Ohio, and the business was conducted under the firm name of R. & W. F. Cantwell, which style is retained. This is a live journal, devoted to the interests of Miami County; is issued every Thursday, and is independent in politics.

The late Robert Cantwell, whose death occurred on March 18, 1908, enlisted at Boston in the Federal Army when only seventeen years of age, and served as a member of Company E, First Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, until it was discharged. Mr. Cantwell was married in 1886 to Miss Catherine Widener, of Covington, who survives him.

Another of the three brothers, Rev. Dr. J. S. Cantwell (who died at Chicago in December, 1907), was a prominent minister and editor in the Universalist denomination, and at the time of his decease was the Western Editor of the *Universalist Leader,* published in Boston, Mass.

W. F. Cantwell was admitted to the Masonic fraternity at Newport, Kentucky, when a young man, becoming a member of Robert Burns Lodge, and he is an active member of the Covington Lodge, in which he served a term as Senior Warden and six years as Secretary. He is a citizen zealous for the prosperity of the city, and his pen is ever ready to interest his fellow citizens in public-spirited movements.

GAINOR JENNINGS, M. D., has been engaged in the practice of medicine at West Milton, Miami County, Ohio, for twenty-six years, and enjoys a prestige throughout the surrounding country. He was born at West Carroll, Ohio, June 4, 1862, and is a son of Dr. Solomon Jennings, of West Milton, who is the oldest practitioner in this section. The latter has been in practice here during the past forty-seven years, and has his office with his son, devoting his attention solely to the treatment of chronic diseases.

Gainor Jennings received his early educational training in the public schools at West Milton, supplemented by a scientific course in Earlham College, at Richmond, Indiana. He then began preparation for his professional career, completing medical courses at Baltimore, Maryland, and at Cincinnati, Ohio. Immediately after graduation he opened an office for practice at West Milton, where he has since continued with the highest success. He is a thorough student, and keeps well abreast the rapid advancement being made in medical science; he not only has the confidence of the people, professionally, but as well their friendship and highest esteem. His office is in a brick building which he owns and had built.

Dr. Jennings was united in marriage with Miss Amanda Pearson, of West Milton, and they have two sons: Paxton; and Ewing, who has been studying in Germany for more than a year. Politically, the Doctor is a Democrat, and is a member of the School Board. For more than twenty years he has been surgeon for the C., H. & D. Railway Company. Fraternally, he is a member of Blue Lodge, F. & A. M., Knights Templar, the Mystic Shrine, and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Religiously, he and his wife are members of the Christian Church.

BERNARD FELGER, a prominent and respected citizen of Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, is the owner of two farms in Section 3 of that township, one of 141 acres, on which he lives, and another of sixty-six acres. He is now living practically a retired life but oversees the work on his farms; he is also interested in the Stillwater Valley Bank at Covington, of which he is a director. Mr. Felger was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, December 23, 1856, and is a son of Martin and Margaret (Steinhilber) Felger.

Martin Felger was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, October 30, 1825, and lived in that country until he was forty years of age. He then set sail for the United States, with his wife and the two children then living, the voyage consuming seventeen days. He located in Covington, Miami County, Ohio, where he thereafter followed his trade as shoemaker during the remainder of his active days. He now lives at that place, enjoying life at the age of eighty-our years, and his wife has passed the eighty-second milestone of life. He owns a fine property there and also has stock in the Building and Loan Association. He is a Democrat in politics. Religiously both he and his wife are consistent members of the Lutheran Church. She was in maiden life Margaret Steinhilber and is a daughter of Bernard and Agnes Steinhilber. The following children were born to them: Peter, who died in infancy; Agnes, deceased; Bernard; Agnes, who married William Routson and has four children, William, Glenna, Maude and May; and Rollen, who married Anna Steinhilber, of Covington, and has three children, Carl, Ivan and George.

Bernard Felger attended school two years in his native country, then completed his educational training in the schools at Covington. After leaving the grade schools he worked on a farm for a time, then attended high school in Covington. He then began raising tobacco on shares on the farm he now lives upon, and he has farmed this place ever since. He purchased of Joseph Layton his farm of sixty-six acres in Newton Township, but never moved upon it, and he later purchased the 141 acres comprising his home farm. He erected all the buildings on the Layton tract, cleared a portion of it and put in about 800 rods of tile for drainage. There are two sets of buildings on the home place, he having remodeled the house where his tenant lives in the spring of 1909, the others having been built before his occupancy of the place, but he built a tobacco shed in the summer of 1908. He has about twenty-five acres of timber on this farm. He follows general farming and also has raised considerable stock of a good grade.

Mr. Felger was married March 6, 1881, to Miss Emma Musselman, a daughter of John and Sarah Musselman, and to them were born the following: Sarah, wife of Samuel B. Holfinger; Margaret, who died in infancy; Verna; and Edna, who is attending school. In religious attachment, they are members of the Lutheran Church of Covington. In politics Mr. Felger holds Democratic principles. He has served as a member of the Board of Education of the township, and at one time was candidate for the office of county commissioner.

H. S. LAMBERT, D. D. S., who has been engaged in the practice of dentistry longer than any other man in West Milton, has an office on Miami Street. He has well arranged and modernly equipped apartments and enjoys an extensive practice.

Dr. Lambert was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, November 7, 1863, and is a son of J. Lewis and Susan (Heirsman) Lambert; he is one of seven children, of whom five are now living. J. Lewis Lambert was born in Virginia, but was a mere child when his parents moved to Montgomery County, Ohio. There he grew to maturity and for many years followed his trade as a carpenter. He died about the year 1890 at the age of sixty-five years.

H. S. Lambert attended the public schools of Montgomery County, Ohio, and after completing the prescribed course began preparation for the profession of dentistry under a preceptor, receiving a certificate of examination. He first practiced at Lewisburg, in Preble County, where he continued for three years, and then for two years practiced at Salem, Phillipsburg and Brookville, all at the same time. In November, 1890, he located in West Milton, where he soon became well established. He is a member of the Miami Valley Dental Society and of the Ohio State Dental Society at Columbus.

Dr. Lambert was united in marriage with Miss Emma Cruea, who is from near Brookville, and they have one son, Ralph, who is attending school. Religiously they are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics the Doctor is a Democrat and is serving on the Board of Public Affairs. He formerly was a member of the Council. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias.

HENRY CLINTON WHITMER comes of an old and well known family of Miami County, Ohio, and is the owner of a farm of eighty acres located three miles southwest of Covington, in Newberry Township. He was born at Pleasant Hill, Newton Township, Miami County, December 3, 1852, and is a son of Abraham and Mary (Deeter) Whitmer, and a grandson of Abraham Whitmer, Sr.

Abraham Whitmer, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and when a young man came to Pleasant Hill, Miami County, Ohio, where he established the first blacksmith shop. He prospered there and became the owner of two farms near Pleasant Hill, each comprising eighty acres and adjoining. His death occurred April 11, 1908, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Hudson Gartley, at Sidney, Ohio, when he had attained the advanced age of eighty-eight years. He was married at Covington to Mary Deeter, who was born in Pennsylvania and was a daughter of David Deeter, who moved west to Montgomery County, Ohio, and settled below Wolf Creek. She was a young girl when the family moved to Pleasant Hill, where she was reared to maturity. She died in middle life, in October, 1877, aged forty-seven years. Abraham and Mary Whitmer were the parents of the following children: Mrs. Elizabeth Stewart; Mrs. Hattie Ginn; David, of Piqua; Henry Clinton; Mrs. Lavina Gartley, of Sidney, Ohio; Joshua, who lives in Michigan; and Mrs. Annie Flinn, who is now deceased.

When but a small boy, Henry C. Whitmer was taken by his parents from Pleasant Hill to the farm, where he was reared to manhood. He attended the public schools of that district and at an early age turned his attention to farming, which he has always followed. After his marriage he and his father-in-law owned a farm of 100 acres located two miles east of Pleasant Hill, in Newton Township, and he continued to reside there until 1901, when he sold out and purchased his present farm in Newberry Township. He carries on general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Whitmer was joined in marriage with Miss Nettie Bashore, a daughter of William Bashore, who lived just south of Pleasant Hill. They have the following children: Mary, who is teaching school near Tippecanoe City, and is a graduate of the Covington High School and for a time attended Juniata College, at Huntington, Pennsylvania; Minnie, who married Raymond Anewalt, of Newton Township, and has a daughter, Marie; Frank; Robert, and Esther. Religiously the family are members of the Church of the Brethren, in which Mr. Whitmer is a deacon.

W. S. KESSLER, a well known member of the bar of Miami County, Ohio, is located at West Milton, where he has been engaged in practice continuously since 1886. He was born in Union Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of William B. Kessler, an old and respected citizen of this county.

W. S. Kessler attended the district schools, and later the West Milton High School. He later completed a course in the Cincinnati Law School, and immediately after his graduation in 1886 opened an office for practice at West Milton. He has served as city solicitor for twenty-two years, and his clientele includes many of the foremost citizens of this section of the county. His office is in the City Bank Building on Miami Street.

Mr. Kessler devotes a month each year to hunting big game, and has met with some remarkable results. He has specimens of various heads and animals, for which he has had flattering offers from the Smithsonian Institute at Washington, but has refused to part with them. One is that of a moose killed by him in northwest Ontario in 1908, which is hanging in the New Pearson Hotel. It measures sixty-one inches in spread of horns, and sixty-three inches from tip of nose to the end of the horn; it was of mammoth size, being seven feet one inch in height, and weighing over 2,000 pounds. He also has a magnificent specimen of the original gray timber wolf, measuring five feet from end of nose to tip of tail and weighing 100 pounds.

W. S. Kessler was first married to Sarah Critton, who died in 1902, leaving three children, namely: Arthur A., who married Miss Josie Farley, and lives in Indianapolis, Indiana; Ethel, who is the wife of F. Niles, of West Milton, and has a son, Ralph; and Dora, who is at home. In 1904 the subject of this record formed a second marital union with Miss Della Brewer, of Miami County, and they have one daughter, Hellen E., who is two years old. Politically he is a Republican and has served as mayor of the village. For six years he efficiently discharged the duties as referee in bankruptcy. Fraternally he is a member of the Masonic Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and Knights of Pythias. In religious attachment he and his wife are members of the Christian Church.

LORAIN HARSHBARGER is a prosperous farmer of Union Township, residing three miles southwest of West Milton, where he owns a farm of fifty acres. He was born in this township February 8, 1877, and is a son of Lloyd and Electa (Sherer) Harshbarger, who reside a short distance west of West Milton. The first of the Harshbarger family to come to Union Township was George, the grandfather of Lorain. He came from Montgomery County, Ohio, where he was born, and lived here until his death.

Lorain Harshbarger attended the district schools and assisted in the work on his father's farm. He later rented a farm for a period of six years, after which he purchased a tract of seven acres located between Laura and West Milton. He remained there for two years, and then in 1906 purchased his present farm of fifty acres from Samuel Hoke. He has made all the improvements on the place, and is engaged in general farming. Mr. Harshbarger was united in marriage with Miss Mary Thompson, a daughter of Abraham and Elizabeth Thompson, who now live in Piqua. Six children have blessed their union: Ruth, James, Ruby, Edwin (who died young), Jacob and Roland. Politically, the subject of this sketch is a Republican. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

HENRY LANDIS, one of Newton Township's most progressive citizens and farmers, is the owner of 120 acres of well improved land, and follows diversified farming. He was born near Pleasant Hill, Miami County, Ohio, September 26, 1855, and is a son of Daniel and Susan Ann (Deeter) Landis, the father being a native of Greene County, Ohio, and the mother of Miami County.

Daniel Landis was a prominent farmer and well-to-do citizen of Newton Township, and at his death was the owner of 180 acres of land in Miami and Darke Counties. In 1874 he purchased 210 acres, but of this he subsequently sold 110 acres. He died in 1899, at the age of seventy years; his wife died in her sixty-seventh year, and both lie buried in Sugar Grove Cemetery. She was a daughter of Abraham and Barbara Deeter. Mr. and Mrs. Landis were parents of the following children: Hannah, Barbara, Henry, David, Lydia, Kate, Susan, Tina, Sarah, Abraham (deceased), John, Myra, and one who died in infancy.

Henry Landis, subject of this biography, first attended the common schools of Darke County, and later those of Miami County. He turned his attention to farming in his youthful days, and continued to live with his father until three years after his marriage; then, in 1887, he moved upon the farm on which he now lives. He was for a period of seventeen years engaged in the butchering business, and during that time made two trips each week to market. In the meantime he carried on farming operations in a most active manner, raising the various small grains, hay and potatoes. During the past eight years he has raised tobacco quite extensively, each year devoting twenty-five acres to the growing of that product. The improvements on his farm are exceptional; he has laid 3,500 feet of tile for drainage, and set out 500 cement posts for fencing. He has a wind pump, with gasoline engine attached, with which facilities he is enabled to irrigate ten acres of ground. He is enterprising and progressive in his ideas and farms along modern and approved methods.

January 12, 1884, Mr. Landis was united in marriage with Miss Katherine Bashore, a daughter of W. H. and Hetty Bashore. The following children were born to them: John, deceased; Emma, who married Walter W. Jones, of near Covington, and has three children—Helen, Mary and Harriet; Grace, who is deceased; Albert, who is a member of the class of 1912 in Ohio State University at Columbus; and Fred, deceased. Religiously they are members of the German Baptist Church, of which he is a deacon. Politically he is a Republican.

HON. ALBERT F. LITTLE, mayor of Bradford, Ohio, and the able editor of the *Morning Sentinel,* a journal which he founded in 1884, is well known in fraternal circles all over the country, and has been particularly identified for years with the order of Red Men. He was born in Logan County, Ohio, in the pleasant town of West Liberty, February 10, 1864, and is a son of John M. and Mary (Jones) Little.

The late John M. Little was a well known business man of Bradford for a number of years, moving to this place in 1879, entering into the drug business under his own name, and being associated for a time with his son, Albert F. Later he moved to Magnetic Springs, Ohio, and there his death occurred on March 31, 1906. He was thrice married. His first wife, Mary Jones, was accidentally killed in a railway accident, in Logan County, in 1866, and he subsequently married her sister, Eliza Jones, and after the latter's death, married another sister.

Albert F. Little was but eighteen months old when accident deprived him of his mother, and he was reared to the age of ten years by his aunt and step-mother. He then went to Darke County, where he lived on a farm, about five miles north of Bradford, for five years, in the meanwhile attending the public schools. He was fifteen years old when he came to Bradford and entered the High School, where he was graduated in 1882, one of a class of three members, of which he is the only survivor. For several years he was associated with his father in his drug store before he really embarked in the printing business, toward which his inclinations were directed from early youth. He acquired his first press, a hand press of ancient pattern, by trading an old overcoat, and he began business on this little machine, and has been in the same line of industry from that day to this. In 1884 he purchased a printing plant and established his present newspaper under the name of the *Sentinel.* Later in the same year he bought out a little journal already in existence, the *Independent,* and, combining the two, issued the *Independent-Sentinel* for a number of years. When he found himself prepared to issue a morning edition of his paper he changed the name to the representative one of *Morning Sentinel.* The encouragement he has received has made it possible for him to provide the people of Bradford with a first-class newspaper two mornings in the week, Wednesdays and Saturdays, and a constantly increasing subscription list and advertising support, indicates that ere long the issue will be daily. Mr. Little does a large business in the line of job printing, and makes a specialty, to some extent, of printing for fraternal organizations and secret societies all over the United States. He has built up a reputation for journalistic enterprise, and on more than one occasion has performed the feat, dear to every newspaper man, of making a "scoop" and being ahead of his competitors with the news of stirring events. This was exemplified on the occasion of the death of the lamented President McKinley, which occurred at Buffalo at 3:15 a. m., and at 4 a. m. the Bradford *Morning Sentinel* was offered on the streets with news and details of this calamity. His was probably the first country newspaper in the United States to announce this fact, and the enterprise would have done credit to a metropolitan sheet.

In 1884 Mr. Little was married at Bradford to Miss Rebecca Haley, who graduated from the Bradford High School as valedictorian of the class of that year. Five children have been born to them, Kenneth, Faith, Carrol F., Russell and Edna. Faith Little graduated from the Bradford High School in 1902, subsequently took a course in music at Otterbein University, after which she was married to H. B. Eller, who is electrician for the Pennsylvania Railroad at Bradford. They have three children, Keith and Lucile and a babe. Kenneth Little graduated from the Bradford High School in 1905, and in the same fall entered the Ohio State University at Columbus, where he was graduated in the spring of 1908. He is engaged in the practice of law in Columbus. He married Miss Cora McCune, a daughter of A. W. McCune, postmaster at Bradford, and they have two children: Delmas and Albert Bernard. Carrol F. Little was graduated in 1907 from the Bradford High School, and is a student at Wittenberg College, at Springfield, Ohio. Russell Little is a member of the class of 1909 at the Bradford High School.

Mr. Little is one of the eight representatives of the order of Red Men, appointed on account of special preparation for the honor, to the Great Council of the United States. He organized the uniform rank of the order in Ohio, and was the first major-general of the Department of Ohio, and is now a retired major-general. At the time of the death of President McKinley he was great sachem of the Ohio Lodge, and he issued the first fraternal proclamation of sorrow over his death. He is also very prominent in the Knights of Pythias, and is past grand representative, and has organized the larger number of lodges in this section. Mrs. Little is past grand chief of the Pythian Sisters of Ohio, and is past representative in the Supreme Temple, which includes the whole of the United States in Pythian work. He is also an Odd Fellow, and has filled all the chairs in the Junior Order of American Mechanics in Ohio. Mr. Little has always found time to be interested in local matters of moment, and at all times has proven himself a citizen in whose judgment and fidelity to the best interests of Bradford all could rely. In 1894 he was first elected mayor of the town, and is serving in that honorable office in his fourth term. In each administration he has given his fellow citizens evidence of his capacity and public spirit, and in each one great strides have been made forward. With his sons, he is an ardent advocate of the principles of the Republican party, and in religious views all are members of the Presbyterian Church. He is a ruling elder in the church at Bradford, and is president of the Darke County Sunday School Association, and is religious director of the Bradford Y. M. C. A.

ALBERT ALBAUGH, a prominent and influential citizen of Union Township, Miami County, Ohio, resides on a farm of 200 acres in all, and in addition owns the farm on which his daughter resides in the same township. He is a man of exceptional business capacity, and from a humble beginning worked his way to the front rank among the substantial men of the community. He was born in Darke County, Ohio, July 4, 1850, and is a son of John and Aseneth (Mendenhall) Albaugh.

John Albaugh was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, whither his parents had at an early date moved from Pennsylvania. When a young man he moved to the vicinity of Gettysburg, Darke County, Ohio, where he farmed until early in the sixties. He then moved to Union Township, Miami County, where he spent the last years of his life. He had taken sick prior to his removal from Darke County, and never recovered his health, his death occurring at the age of sixty-eight years. His wife survived him but three months, dying at the age of sixty-five. They were parents of ten children.

Albert Albaugh was but a baby when his parents moved to Union Township, and here he grew to maturity. His educational training in the schools was limited, as his father was disabled, and he, being the oldest son, was obliged to do the work on the farm. Thus hard work and self-reliance came to him at an early age, and proved the foundation for his future success. When nineteen years of age he purchased a team of horses, for which he incurred an indebtedness of $200, but soon was able to pay this off. He worked at home until he was thirty years of age, and was constantly laying by a part of his earnings, which he used to good advantage in discounting notes. He purchased the farm on which his daughter, Mrs. Younce, now lives, and made his home on that place for twenty-three years. In 1907 he purchased his present home farm for a cash consideration of $11,000, and has since lived upon it. He follows general farming and tobacco raising. He is a director of the Miami County Fair Board, to which he was elected in 1907. Politically, he is a Republican.

Mr. Albaugh was united in marriage with Ida A. Herley, and they have three children: Leonard, who married Dorothy Rue and lives on the home place; Alma, who married Clark Younce and has a son, Aubrey; and Esther, who also lives with her parents. Religiously, they are members of the United Brethren Church.

A. F. MIKESELL, one of Newberry Township's well known citizens, who is now living in his handsome brick residence situated on a small farm of twelve and one-half acres on the Shelby County Turnpike, one mile north of Covington, was born on a farm one mile north of Pleasant Hill, Miami County, Ohio, July 3, 1842, is a son of John and Susan (Friedly) Mikesell, of Covington.

A. F. Mikesell, who is better known as Fridly Mikesell, remained on the farm on which he was born until six years of age, when his parents moved to Clayton, Newberry Township, shortly thereafter, however, removing to Covington, where Mr. Mikesell obtained his education. When a young man he secured a tract of 133 acres of land situated two and one-half miles west of Covington, on Greenville Creek, and while living there he was married. For about five years after this event Mr. Mikesell continued on this farm, and then sold out to purchase a property of 100 acres, located across the road from that which he now occupies, and he was here engaged in agricultural pursuits for a period covering thirty-five years. He became one of the best known farmers in Newberry Township, and after a long and active agricultural life retired to his present property, on which, in 1907, he erected a beautiful brick residence. He is also the owner of considerable property in New Mexico and Oklahoma.

In 1867 Mr. Mikesell was united in marriage with Jane Beery, who was born in Bremen, Fairfield County, Ohio, a daughter of Levi and Margaret (Short) Beery, who removed to Iowa when Mrs. Mikesell was about three and one-half years old. There Levi Beery was engaged in farming and milling. To Mr. and Mrs. Mikesell there were born eight children, as follows: Arthur L., who graduated from Covington High School, studied medicine at the Chicago Homeopathic Medical College, spent eighteen months in the County Hospital, Chicago, and is now engaged in the practice of his profession at Fort Wayne, Indiana, married Harriet Isabelle Kimball, and they have one child, Helen B.; Alma, who married Charles L. Trump, died October 7, 1905, leaving one child, Florence Janice; Nora, the wife of Ira J. Gump, has four children, Lucile, Luther, Joseph and Rosella, and lives in Covington; Vinnie, the wife of J. S. Flory, lives at Bridgewater, Virginia, Mr. Flory being a teacher in the Bridewater College; Maurice, general manager of the Miami Ranch, in New Mexico, married Elizabeth Rosenberger, and has two children, Margaret and Andrew Frank; John Levi, is a farmer and real estate dealer of Oklahoma; Margaret, the wife of Dr. Bernard J. Kendell, of Tippecanoe City, has two children, Sarah Jane and John Jacob; Wilbur B., is attending the Ohio State University, at Columbus.

Mr. Mikesell was a school director in Newberry Township for many years, and was president of the School Board of Covington at the time the new school building was erected. He is a member and a deacon of the Brethren Church.

H. I. KELCH, a substantial citizen and prosperous farmer of Newberry Township, who owns what was formerly the old Henry Finfrock farm, a valuable tract of eighty acres, located just south of Bloomer, Miami County, was born on a farm in Shelby County, Ohio, June 14, 1861, and is a son of Frederick and Susanna (Sweigart) Kelch.

John Nicholas Kelch, the grandfather, came to Ohio from Germany when his son Frederick was about three years of age, settling on a farm adjoining the one now owned by the subject of this sketch, Harman Isaiah Kelch. He remained on that farm for only three weeks, moving then to Darke County, where he made his home until his son Frederick was a young man, when he purchased the farm on which Frederick resided at the time of Harman I. Kelch's birth. Frederick Kelch was a farmer during his earlier years. He was born in Germany, and now lives in Mercer County, Ohio. He married Susanna Sweigart, who died in September, 1892.

Harman I. Kelch grew to manhood in Shelby County, and obtained his education in the township schools. When he started out for himself he purchased his father's farm, which had originally contained 140 acres, but then was 100 acres, and after operating the farm for some years he sold it to advantage, then spent one year in Darke County, and in 1906 bought his present farm in Newberry Township, on which he has since carried on general farming and tobacco raising. He is a hard-working man, and his industry and good management have brought him a large measure of success in his undertakings.

Mr. Kelch married Miss Caroline Cromes, who was born in Pennsylvania but reared in Shelby County, Ohio, where her parents, Joseph and Elizabeth (Neiswonger) Cromes, were substantial farming people. They both died in Shelby County. Mr. and Mrs. Kelch have had the following children born to them: Walter, Virgil, William, Elmer, Clara, Bertha, Pearl, Grace and Cora. With his family, Mr. Kelch belongs to the Lutheran Church.

WILLIAM HARSHBARGER, a representative of one of the oldest families of Union Township, Miami County, Ohio, is engaged in farming on a forty-acre tract located about three miles southwest of West Milton. He was born near Laura, in Union Township, June 30, 1872, and is a son of Lloyd and Electa (Sherer) Harshbarger, and a grandson of George and Mary (Penny) Harshbarger.

William Harshbarger received his educational training in the district schools of his native township, and at an early age began his business career. He worked for some years for his father, after which he farmed various places at different times until 1901, when he purchased thirty-two acres about three and one-half miles west of West Milton. He disposed of that place and purchased a tract near Laura, on which he lived until 1903, when he purchased his present farm. Always a hard worker and progressive in his methods, he has made steady progress in a business way, and enjoys high standing in the community. He has a well improved place, and follows general farming and tobacco growing. Mr. Harshbarger was united in marriage with Miss Clara Christian, a daughter of Aaron Christian, and they have a son and a daughter, namely, Lloyd A. and Margaret. Politically, he is a Republican.

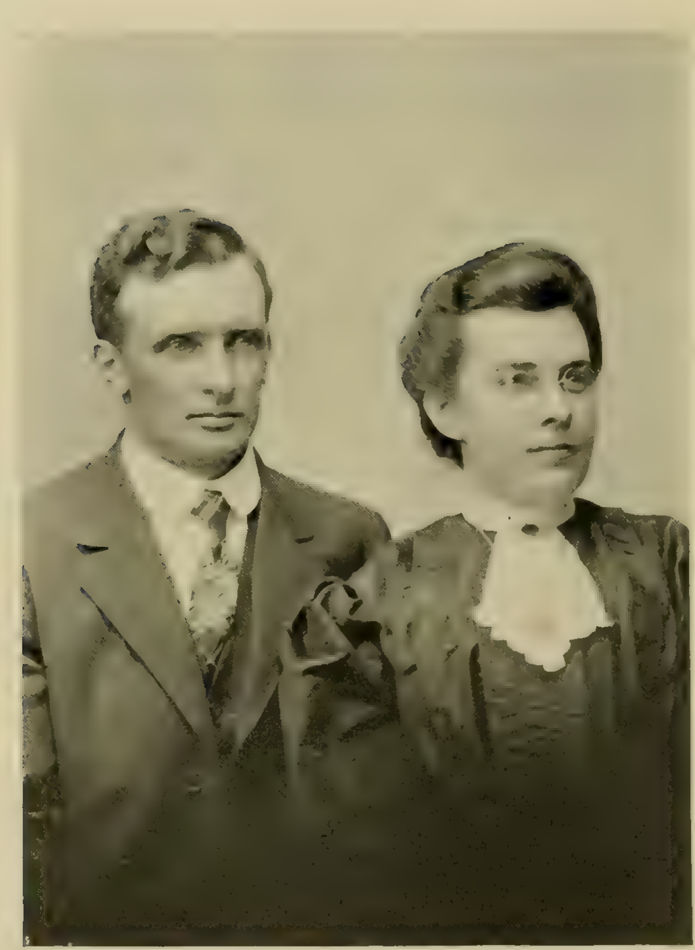
ROBERT MORRIS DICKSON, owner of eighty acres of land in Spring Creek Township, about four and a half miles east of Piqua, comes of an old family of this section and was born on an adjoining farm, March 15, 1860. He is a son of Samuel McKnight and Jane (Patterson) Dickson, and a grandson of John Dickson, who was of Scotch-Irish descent.

John Dickson was born in Pennsylvania and early in life settled in Spring Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, where he was one of the pioneers and where the family name has since been a prominent one. He located on what is known as the old Dickson homestead and erected a brick house, of brick burned on the farm; this house is still standing. Politically he was a Democrat. He married Jane McKnight, and they became parents of five children—Samuel McKnight, Sarah Ann, James, Jane Eleanor, who died young, and Joseph.

Samuel McKnight Dickson was born in Rossville, Spring Creek Township, September 1, 1824, and received his education in the district schools of the township. He worked on the home place and engaged in teaching during his younger days, and was known to possess a mind of unusual brilliancy. After he gave up teaching he settled on the farm across the road from the place of the subject of this record, and there farmed until his death, May 26, 1862. He was a Republican in politics, and served as township clerk, infirmary director and in various township offices. He was joined in marriage with Jane Patterson, who was born in Pennsylvania, August 31, 1832, and was six years of age when brought to the old Patterson homestead in Spring Creek Township, Miami County, Ohio, by her parents, Robert and Mary Patterson. They had two sons: John Charles, who was born December 29, 1857, and never married, his death occurring May 9, 1899; and Robert Morris, whose name heads this record.

Robert Morris Dickson attended the district schools of his home district, the normal school at Danville, Indiana, and Ohio Northern University at Ada, Ohio. He then engaged in teaching for a period of eighteen years, being located successively in various parts of Miami County, also one year in Iowa and two years in Kentucky. After giving up his professional work he located on his present farm, where he has carried on general farming and stock raising. He has met with considerable success in raising pure blood Poland China hogs.

Mr. Dickson was united in marriage with Miss Harriet Himmelright, a daughter of John H. and Mary Himmelright, her father being one of the leading contractors of Piqua. She was graduated from Piqua High School in 1883, being valedictorian of her class, and then attended Ohio Northern University at Ada, Ohio. Upon leaving that institution she was engaged in teaching in Piqua until her marriage, and also taught a class in Sunday school for twelve years. She is a lady of refinement and the highest accomplishments, and is



MR. AND MRS. JOHN SCHRAM

president of the Domestic Science Club. Mr. Dickson is a prominent member of the Grange and is one of the subordinate officers. He served as delegate to the State Grange, and Mrs. Dickson read a paper on household matters before the State Institute at Columbus. Politically he is an active Republican and has been delegate to various county, congressional and senatorial conventions. He has served as secretary of the township organization, and has also served nine years as township trustee, and six years as road supervisor, and was for a time a member of the School Board. He is a trustee of the United Presbyterian Church of Piqua, of which he and his wife have been members for many years.

OREL M. SUBER, general farmer and well known citizen of Brown Township, a member of one of the old and representative families of this section, operates the farm owned by him and his brother George W., of eighty-three acres, which is situated one-half mile north of Fletcher. He was born July 21, 1877, on the old Suber homestead, situated northwest of Conover, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of William D. Suber.

Orel M. Suber was reared in Brown Township and received his education in the schools near his home. Previous to moving on his mother's farm, he worked on the homestead, where he had a very thorough and practical agricultural training. He raises grain, hay and stock, and is numbered with the wide awake farmers of the township. Mr. Suber married Miss Eva M. Furrow, a daughter of Frank Furrow, and they have one little daughter, Mary E., aged five years, and lost another, Cora F., when aged five months. Mr. and Mrs. Suber are members of the Presbyterian Church. In politics he is identified with the Democratic party. He belongs to the fraternal order of Golden Eagles.

JOHN SCHRAM, general farmer, who resides on his valuable farm of eighty-one acres, which is situated in Section 3, Range 5, Newton Township, was born April 12, 1873, in Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, and is a son of George and Rachel (Schultz) Schram.

George Schram, father of John, was born in Heistdannenstock, Germany, May 1, 1829, and came to America in 1853, landing at Castle Garden, New York, with five cents in his pocket. He immediately secured work as a hostler and later worked on a railroad and in this way managed to get to Montgomery County, Ohio, where he engaged in a carpet weaving business, remaining there until 1873, when he moved to Miami County and continued carpet weaving, at Pleasant Hill. He was also a small farmer, having sixteen acres, in Newton Township. He was married in Montgomery County, to Rachel Schultz, a daughter of David Schultz, in February, 1865, and they had four children: David C., Lavina, Nellie and John.

John Schram attended school at Pleasant Hill, and then assisted his father on the farm and later worked for neighboring farmers on his own account. After he married he resided at Pleasant Hill for two years, working by the day during the larger part of this time; he then rented his present farm for two years before he purchased it from S. Z. Williams. He now owns the old sheepskin deed for this land, which bears the signature of President Andrew Jackson. After taking possession, Mr. Schram cleared off nine acres of timber, leaving five acres yet standing, and put in 350 rods of tile. He also put up all the farm buildings now standing, including the fine home, and made many other improvements. He raises some cattle, mainly for dairy purposes, and devotes three to five acres of his land to tobacco and the remainder of it to corn, wheat, oats and hay. He is an enterprising young man and has his whole farm in such a condition that it gives him excellent returns on his investment.

Mr. Schram was married January 18, 1894, to Miss Emma Wackler, a daughter of Ernest and Barbara (Steinhilber) Wackler (both parents now deceased), and they have two sons, George Ray, born January 4, 1905; and Ohmer Melvin, born September 15, 1907, both of whom are bright students at the Rough and Ready School, in Newton Township. Mr. and Mrs. Schram are members of the Christian Church. In politics he is a Democrat. On June 9, 1909, at Mr. Schram's home will be held the seventh reunion of the Schultz family, at which 175 people are expected to be present. Mr. Schram is one of the following children: Catherine, who married David Myers; Ernest; Maggie, who married Mathew Link; Frederick; Barbara, who married Asa Kelly; Charles, and Emma, wife of the subject of this sketch.

L. E. CONWAY, a representative citizen, farmer and stock raiser, of Newberry Township, owning 105 acres of good land, is a native of this township, having been born two miles northeast of Covington, October 14, 1857. His parents were John and Mary (Tobias) Conway, and his maternal grandfather was Michael Tobias. His father died in Iowa. His mother lives in Covington, Ohio.

In his youth the subject of this sketch attended the district schools near his grandfather's farm, and graduated from the Covington High School in the class of 1879. He taught several terms of school in Newberry Township, and it was here that he spent some of the happiest days of his life, and he looks back to this time as an oasis in life's journey. His chosen occupation through life has been farming, and his property gives evidence of his sound judgment and his practical methods of work. With the assistance of his son he raises grain and hay and some of the best stock produced in Newberry Township, having raised as much as 1,800 bushels of wheat in one season on his ground and on Mr. Mummert's farm. He has always been a citizen of Newberry Township, although he has made one trip to California and one to Nebraska, having visited besides a number of other western States.

Mr. Conway was married first to Miss Catherine Seas, who died in 1893, leaving five children, namely: Arthur Scott, who resides on one of his father's farms and who married Myrtle Wise, by whom he has three children—Luther, Naomi and Lawson; and Clarence Minton, Edith Edel, Ruth Naomi and Frances May. Mr. Conway was married (second) to Mrs. Mary Shomber Cassel, a widow, and one son was born to this union, Lee Edward, who died when four years old. Mrs. Conway has two daughters by her first marriage—Nora, who is the wife of Harman Miller, and Florence, who is the wife of Forrest

Shellebarger. Mr. Conway has been able to give all his living children a good education, Clarence Minton, Edith Edel and Ruth Naomi having graduated from the Covington High School, while Frances May has just completed the first year in the high school. Clarence has taught school for several terms, and at present is completing a course in the commercial college at Piqua. Mr. Conway, his wife and all his children are members of the Upper Stillwater Church of the Brethren, in which he is a deacon. Raised a Lutheran, he has never regretted identifying himself with the Church of the Brethren.

JAMES B. KINDELL, head of the firm of J. B. Kindell & Co., proprietors of the Sugar Grove Mills and Elevator, has met with almost phenomenal success with the enterprise mentioned. From an humble beginning he has built up a plant whose name is a household word throughout this section of the state. He was born in Johnston County, Arkansas, April 12, 1860, and is a son of Ezekiel and Nancy (Tate) Kindell.

Ezekiel Kindell was born in Shelby County, Ohio, May 25, 1835. and there passed his boyhood days. He emigrated with his uncle, Alden Boggs, in 1855, to Arkansas to become his head miller, having learned the miller's trade with his father, Benjamin Kindell, in a water-power mill on the Miami River between Piqua and Sidney, Ohio. During the Civil War he enlisted as a private in Company A, Second Regiment of Arkansas Volunteer Infantry, with which he continued throughout the service. He was advanced to the rank of first lieutenant and later served as acting captain of his company. He was discharged in August, 1865, after serving in the army four years. After the war he moved north to Miami County, Ohio, where he thereafter lived, following the carpenter's trade and millwrighting until 1882.

In partnership with his son, J. B. Kindell, he was engaged in milling at Sugar Grove for many years, then moved to Covington and built an elevator, which business he conducted for five years, being succeeded by S. J. Rudy. He died in November, 1907, and was buried in the Covington Cemetery.

Mr. Kindell was first married in Arkansas, to Miss Nancy Tate, a daughter of James M. and Anna (Mears) Tate. The Mears and Tate families were pioneer ones in Arkansas, removing there from Georgia at a very early period. This union was blessed with the following children: Nancy, deceased; Mary, Alice, Sarah, Dora, George Washington, and James Benjamin, whose name appears at the head of this record. Mrs. Kindell died in May, 1873, and was buried in the Covington Cemetery. Mr. Kindell formed a second marriage in the spring of 1875 with Miss Sarah Jane Fine, a daughter of David M. and Rebecca Fine, and they had four children—Clifford, Ray, Bessie, and Lulu, of whom the three first mentioned are deceased. Mr. Kindell's second wife died in 1906 and also was buried in the Covington Cemetery. Religiously he was a member of the Church of the Brethren. He was a Democrat in politics.

James B. Kindell attended the public schools of Newton, Newberry and Washington Townships, and in 1877 he went to Arkansas to reside with his grandfather, whom he assisted on the farm for three years. When he returned to Miami County he had $300, with which he started in the milling business in Newton Township, in partnership with his father, under the firm name of E. Kindell & Co. John Reid, Sr., was also interested in the business, which was conducted as a company. At the end of ten years it was reorganized as E. Kindell & Son, and the latest improved machinery for the milling of flour and meal was installed. In 1894, through his father's retirement from the firm, the subject of this sketch became sole owner and proprietor. He thereupon remodeled the mill to the latest sifter system, and built a new residence and the other buildings on the place. He also bought a farm of 100 acres, lying directly across the river from the plant. On February 26, 1898, the mill was entirely destroyed by fire, and resulted in a serious loss to him, only about one-half, or $3,700, being covered by insurance. Phœnix-like he arose from the ashes and built the present mill. In order to clear his indebtedness, he sold his farm of 100 acres, and on October 14, 1898, he began operating his new plant. He installed the very latest and most approved machinery known to produce the highest grade of flour from soft winter wheat. He installed the roller system, with corn scourers and steam dryers, and the very best equipment for the manufacture of corn meal. He again started up with an indebtedness of $12,000 hanging over him, but phenomenal success cleared this away in a few years. He prospered to such an extent that he again bought land, purchasing eighty-four acres near the mill, on which he has erected tobacco sheds. In 1907 he purchased sixty-four acres in Darke County, which he has since sold (in 1909). Prior to 1895 Mr. J. N. Arendall was connected with the plant as head miller, and in recognition of his valued services he was at that time admitted to working partnership in the enterprise. Mr. Kindell owns all the real estate.

The principal brands of this mill are Invincible Patent flour, Pearl and Golden Dent corn meal, and Germ Graham flour, all of which are well known to the public. The methods of this firm in doing business are progressive and original and have brought gratifying results. Anyone wishing to call them up on business can do so at the firm's expense from the following towns: Laura, Potsdam, West Milton, Ludlow Falls, Pleasant Hill, Fidelity, Union, Englewood, Polo, Bloomer, and Covington, as the firm is flat-rated both ways with the Covington Home Telephone Company.

On September 22, 1889, Mr. Kindell was united in marriage with Miss Eva J. Graft, a daughter of David and Lavinda (Swihart) Graft. Her parents were formerly of Mexico, Indiana, and then settled at Peru, Indiana; they were people that occupied a prominent position in that place. Mrs. Graft died in 1877 and was buried at Deedsville, Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Kindell have a daughter, Alice Marie, who successfully passed the Boxwell examination at thirteen years of age, and graduated from the Newton Township schools in May, 1909, and will enter Covington High School in the fall of 1909. The family are members of the Church of the Brethren. Mr. Kindell is an independent Democrat in politics.

It is seen by the foregoing that Mr. Kindell is a born miller. His grandfather, Benjamin Kindell, was a miller before his

W. F. ROBBINS

father, and came from Scotland, where his father was a miller. Benjamin Kindell, the grandfather, built the original Sugar Grove Mills and improved the water-power in 1830, having built himself and installed the first undershot water-wheels here in western Ohio. The present owner has had set two large turbine water-wheels of the Victor pattern, which produce ample power to drive the 50-barrel flouring mill, all scourers, corn mill rollers, making fifteen bushels of fine table meal per hour, together with the wagon dump and corn elevator taking care of a fifty-bushel load of corn every twenty minutes. Mr. Kindell is so infatuated with milling that he expects always to remain in the business at Sugar Grove, as he thoroughly believes in the community, from the support which he has received in the past.

WILLIAM F. ROBBINS has for many years been prominently identified with the affairs of Piqua and Miami County, Ohio, both in public and private capacities, and takes rank among the foremost citizens of the county—those who have given freely of their time and energy to the promotion of public enterprises and the improvement of public institutions. As head of the Piqua waterworks for many years he wrought a great and beneficial change, giving the city pure water and a new plant, in which the people take a justifiable pride, and making the department self-sustaining. He has also rendered valuable services as president of the county board of agriculture; during his incumbency of that office the annual fairs were elevated to a higher plane than they had previously reached, and all departments of agriculture were stimulated in such a manner as to bring real and lasting benefit to the people. In business life Mr. Robbins has been closely identified with various important interests; he has been actively and successfully engaged in the livery business for many years, being at the present time a member of the firm of Robbins & Moore.

William F. Robbins was born on a farm in Brown Township, Miami County, Ohio, March 25, 1854, is a son of Alvernas and Sarah Ellen (Gearhart) Robbins, a grandson of Benjamin and Pamilla (Covault) Robbins, and a great-grandson of Richard Robbins, who was the pioneer of the family in Miami County, Ohio. The Robbins family is of Welsh origin, and was transplanted to American soil in the Colonial Days, being located in New Jersey. The Gearharts came to this country from Germany and were first residents of Virginia.

Richard Robbins, great-grandfather of William F., came to Miami County, from Centerville, Montgomery County, Ohio, at a time when Indians were numerous and still hostile, and the pioneer families in constant jeopardy of massacre. The country was wild and uncleared, and was sparsely settled.

Benjamin and Pamilla (Covault) Robbins were the parents of eleven children, of whom five grew to advanced years, namely: Sarah, Alvernas, Madison, Erastus, and Benjamin M. The father of this family was a farmer by occupation, and was located in Lost Creek Township, Miami County.

Alvernas Robbins was born in Lost Creek Township, December 14, 1832, and was reared on the home place. He followed the occupation of a farmer and hired out in his younger days, in that way earning and saving enough to enable him in time to purchase a place of his own. A man of keen perception and foresight, he bought and sold different properties to good advantage, thereby adding more rapidly to his means. He continued his farming operations until about the year 1888, when he moved to Piqua, where he now lives in practical retirement. He was united in marriage with Sarah Ellen Gearhart, who was born in Elizabeth Township, Miami County, Ohio, September 12, 1829, and is a daughter of Daniel and Mary (Beaty) Gearhart. Her father was six years of age when he came from Virginia to Ohio with his father, John Gearhart, who was a native of Germany. The Beaty family is of Irish extraction. Mr. and Mrs. Robbins were married May 12, 1853, and became parents of seven children, as follows: William F., Mary, Lena, Erastus, Bert, James, and Charles.

William F. Robbins was reared on the old homestead and received his educational training in the common schools. He worked on the home place and lived with his parents until he was twenty-six years of age, then in 1880 moved to Piqua. He was for two years connected with the Strawboard Company, after which he embarked in the livery business, in which he has continued with uninterrupted success since. About the year of 1890 he formed a partnership with Mr. Moore, and the firm of Robbins & Moore became one of prominence in that field of business, enjoying the public patronage to a remarkable extent.

In April, 1890, Mr. Robbins was elected to the City Council of Piqua, representing the Second Ward, being the first Republican ever elected from that ward, which had a natural Democratic majority of 300; his majority was thirty-seven. In 1894, he was elected to the Board of Trustees of the Piqua waterworks, and upon being sworn into office was chosen as president of the board. He served with marked efficiency, and in 1897 was honored with re-election as a member and president of the board, and was made superintendent of waterworks. The satisfactory discharge of his duties and his activity in behalf of a new plant resulted in his retention in office for a third term. With a capacity for work and possessed of keen business acumen, progressive and public spirited, his aim to place the waterworks on a paying basis was realized and the saving to the city duly appreciated by the people.

Mr. Robbins was united in marriage, February 16, 1875, with Miss Mary H. Riddle, a daughter of Manning and Lydia Ann (Stillwell) Riddle, and a granddaughter of Jacob Riddle. The Riddles are of Irish and Welsh descent, but have long been established on American soil, and in Ohio. Jacob Riddle, the grandfather, was a native of Hamilton County, Ohio, and in the year 1836 moved to Miami County, taking up his residence in Staunton Township. Manning Riddle was also born in Hamilton County, Ohio, and accompanied his parents to Miami County. He served creditably in the Union Army during the Civil War. He was married to Lydia Ann Stillwell, a daughter of Joseph Stillwell, whose ancestry lived in New Jersey. William F. and Mary H. Robbins have been the parents of two children, namely: Lee Carlton, a young man of considerable musical ability and training, who married Miss Bertha Singles and resides in Piqua; Earl Clyde, who also has a taste for music and is endowed with superior talent as an artist; and Ella Jane, who died when she was one year old. Fraternally Mr. Robbins is a member of the Knights of Pythias.

R. W. HIMES, secretary and treasurer of the Longnaker-Himes Gravel Company of Covington, Ohio, a man of scholarly attainments, was for many years one of the leading educators of this section of the state, and was for a period of eighteen years principal of the Covington High Schools. He was born on a farm in Montgomery County, Ohio, April 15, 1850, and is a son of Martin and Anna (VanCleve) Himes.

Mr. Himes spent his early boyhood days on a farm near Dayton, Montgomery County, Ohio, and at Alpha, Greene County, coming to Miami County in 1865 with his parents, who located on a farm in Newberry Township, where they resided the remainder of their lives. After a primary education in the district schools, he graduated from the Covington High School in 1870 under Professor R. F. Bennett, then completed a course of study at Heidelberg College, of Tiffin, Ohio, after which he returned to Covington, where he accepted a position as principal of the High School. In 1891, he became associated with the Southern Illinois College, in White County, first as professor of languages for one year, after which he served as president of that institution for two years, when he resigned to return to his old position as principal of the Covington High School. He was subsequently elected and served eight years as superintendent of the Covington Schools and very efficiently met the demands of his responsible position. Since that time Mr. Himes has been associated with the Longnaker-Himes Gravel Company, of which he is secretary and treasurer, the pit being located in Possum Hollow, south of Pleasant Hill.

In 1873 Mr. Himes was joined in wedlock with Jennie Ullery, a daughter of Aaron Ullery, and to them have been born the following children: Clara, who married D. C. Odell; Arthur B., a well known jeweler of Covington; Ruth; and Alice. Mr. Himes is a member and president of the City Council; he is a member of the Presbyterian Church, of which he is also an elder.

GIDEON KEYT, deceased, who for many years was one of Miami County's substantial and respected citizens as well as prominent farmers, belonged to one of the pioneer families of this section. He was born March 8, 1828, at Piqua, Miami County, Ohio, and was a son of James D. and Elizabeth (Widney) Keyt.

The first of the family to come to America was John Keyt, who married Elizabeth Chilcot. They settled in the colony of New Jersey, near Elizabeth. They had one son by the name of James and three daughters. James (1732-1800) married Elizabeth Jessup (1732-1824) by whom he had two sons and two daughters. One of the sons, Daniel, died in 1776 at the age of thirteen years. The other son, named James (1762-1800) married Elizabeth Ross (1762-1852) and they were the grandparents of the subject of this sketch.

James D. Keyt, son of James and Elizabeth (Ross) Keyt, and father of Gideon, was born in New Jersey in 1794 and came to Miami County in 1819 as a pioneer settler. He married Elizabeth Widney (1801-

1848), who was born in Pennsylvania and who was a daughter of John Widney, who had settled in Miami County in 1810.

James D. Keyt was born in New Jersey in 1797 and came to Miami County in 1819 as a pioneer settler. He married Elizabeth Widney, who was born in Pennsylvania and who was a daughter of Stephen Widney, who had settled in Miami County when she was a child. After his marriage James D. Keyt resided at Piqua until 1830, when he purchased the farm of 160 acres near this city which became the Keyt homestead. Of this large tract he cleared and cultivated seventy-five acres, making also many improvements previous to 1842. In this year he retired to Piqua, where he subsequently resided until his death in 1849. He and his wife were the parents of nine children. James D. Keyt belonged to the better class of pioneer settlers who came here to found a home and who on that account were active in introducing the various conveniences of civilization, welcoming and upholding everything that made for the advancement of the community. He was one of those who worked hard to establish the early schools, to build the first churches, and to improve the highways, and, imbued with these ideas his son Gideon cherished the same ideals and worked for the same ends.

Gideon Keyt took charge of the farm soon after the death of his father and resided on it thereafter until the close of his long and busy life. Both he and his father were stone masons by trade and they did at one time a large amount of work in that line, but later finding that the farm required his whole attention, Gideon gave up his trade and developed the farm into a valuable piece of agricultural property.

December 27, 1864, Gideon Keyt was married to Miss Elizabeth Ward, who is a daughter of Elijah and Hannah Ward. They had five children born to them, namely: James Ward, Gideon E., Hannah Elizabeth, Laura Rachel, and Margaret Ellen. Their record in brief is as follows:

James Ward Keyt was graduated from the Piqua High School in 1885 and from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1888. He subsequently attended the Cincinnati Law School, was admitted to the bar October 8, 1891, and is now a prominent attorney of Piqua. He was married November 5, 1896, to Edith Slauson, a native of Piqua, who is a graduate of the Piqua High School, and subsequently attended St. Margaret's School at Buffalo, New York. They have three children—Frances Elizabeth, Bernard S., and Isabel W. After graduating from the Ohio Wesleyan University and previous to his matriculation at the Cincinnati Law School he served as principal of Science Grove Seminary, at Robard, Kentucky, for one year. A Republican in politics, he served as mayor of Piqua for two terms—from 1893 to 1897.

Gideon E. Keyt, the second child of the subject of this memoir, is now a leading lawyer of Toledo, Ohio. Hannah Elizabeth is now Mrs. Thomas Ferrick. Laura Rachel died in 1875. Margaret E. resides in Toledo.

The late Gideon Keyt was an excellent type of citizen—a law-abiding, public-spirited man, and of tried and true patriotism. During the Civil War he served as a member of Company C, 147th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. His death took place January 12, 1901. In glancing back over his genealogy, it is interesting to note that the female representative in each genera-

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MRS. PHOEBE H. POLING

tion in the direct line of descent from the immigrant ancestor, John Keyt, has been named Elizabeth. He himself, by his marriage to Elizabeth Ward, added one more link to the genealogical chain thus formed.

G. W. POLING, a substantial citizen of Union Township, Miami County, Ohio, resides in a splendid home located about one and one-half miles west of West Milton. He is a native of Union County, Ohio, and is a son of John and Sarah (Parks) Poling, both natives of Maryland and early settlers in Union County. His father died in 1856, at the age of fifty-six years; his mother died in 1895, at the advanced age of ninety-five years.

G. W. Poling was educated in the schools of Union County and assisted his father on the farm until he reached his majority. He then began farming for himself and continued that occupation throughout his active business career, except for three years, during which he engaged in carpentering. He is a man of exceptional business acumen and foresight. In 1883 he moved to Union Township, Miami County. The 500 acre farm on which he resides belongs to Mrs. Poling, being left to her by her father. Three years after coming here Mr. Poling erected one of the finest homes in this section, in keeping with which are the other improvements he has made on the place. There is also a farm of 105 acres near Hamilton, Ohio, and another of eighty-five acres near Kokomo, Indiana, both in Mrs. Poling's name, having been received from her father. During the past fifteen years Mr. Poling has been practically retired from business, renting most of the land. He devotes his time to looking after his interests and buying and selling horses, of which he is a good judge.

In 1884 Mr. Poling was united in marriage to Miss Phoebe Haskett, who was born and reared in Miami County, and is a daughter of John and Mary (Maddock) Haskett. She comes of one of the pioneer families of Miami County, where her father was born. He followed farming and lived here all his life, dying in 1880 at the age of sixty-six years. Mr. Haskett married Miss Mary Maddock, a native of Preble County, who died in 1900; they had two children—Phoebe (Poling); and Rebecca, who is deceased. Religiously, Mrs. Poling is a member of the Society of Friends. He is a Republican in politics.

A. A. HUBER, who is one of Piqua's most respected retired citizens, enjoying the comforts of his pleasant home at No. 316 North Downing Street, for many years was actively engaged in business at different points in Ohio. He was born in 1841 in the Dominion of Canada and came to Ohio prior to 1861, having received his educational training in his native land.

Mr. Huber lived at Cincinnati for some six months and then entered into the grain business at Kirkwood, Ohio, which he continued for eight years, moving from there to Bowling Green, where he embarked in a general mercantile business. From there he went to Toledo and lived in that city until 1900, when he came to Piqua and for eight years carried on business in this city, being a large dealer in coal and builders' supplies. For a short time he has considered himself retired, although this must be taken figuratively, as he has only closed out his retail interests, retaining the wholesale features. He has large real estate investments here and much of his time is taken up in supervising the improvement and sale of his property.

Mr. Huber was married in 1874, to Miss Celina Wise, of Lockington, Ohio, and they have one daughter, D. Myrtle, who resides at home. Mr. and Mrs. Huber are members of the Green Street Methodist Episcopal Church. He is one of Piqua's capitalists.

A. G. EIDEMILLER,* a well known resident of West Milton, Miami County, Ohio, is engaged in the real estate and insurance business and is also clerk of Union Township. He was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, in 1862, and is a son of Martin and Elizabeth Eidemiller, his father a native of Germany and his mother of Pennsylvania. Martin Eidemiller was two years of age when the family came to the United States and located in Montgomery County, Ohio. There he was reared to maturity and followed farming until his death at the age of seventy-three years. His wife died at the age of fifty-six years.

A. G. Eidemiller attended the district schools of his home community, and thereafter taught school and farmed for a period of twenty years. In 1901 he located at West Milton and engaged in the buggy and farm implement business, also dealing extensively in livestock. He continued with good returns until January, 1908, when he sold his interests to Mr. E. L. Miller. He then moved into his present office and began dealing in local real estate and handling fire and accident insurance, representing some of the strongest companies operating in this country. He was elected to the office of township clerk in 1907, and has discharged the duties of his office in a most satisfactory manner.

Mr. Eidemiller was united in the bonds of matrimony with Miss Ella Fouts, a daughter of Aaron Fouts, who died in 1891. They have four children: Lester W., a railway postal clerk who married Miss Dorothy Becker of Dayton; Neva, who attended Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio, completing a musical and literary course; Aaron Fouts; and Cuba Manila, who is attending school. Politically, the subject of this sketch is a Republican. In fraternal affiliation, he is a Mason and a Pythian Knight. Religiously, he is a member of the Christian Church.

JAMES B. HOUSER,* who resides on his 106-acre farm in Spring Creek Township, is one of the thriving agriculturists of this township and a citizen who has taken a useful part in public affairs. He was born on this farm, in an old log house built by his grandfather ninety years ago, and which is still standing and in a state of good preservation. It was one of the first houses in the township built from hewed logs—the logs being all poplar—and at a later date was provided with weather-boarding. Here the subject of this sketch first saw the light October 16, 1854, his parents being Aaron M. and Eliza N. (Inskeep) Houser.

Aaron M. Houser, the father, was born in this same log house and spent his entire life on this farm. He died January 26, 1899. James B. was his second child in order of birth. The entire family in correct order was as follows: William S.; James B., our subject; Henry Lawrence; Samuel Franklin; Joseph Merrill; Carrie

Rose Emma, who married Bland Scudder, a justice of the peace in Piqua; and Albert Wesley.

James B. Houser received his education in the district schools of Spring Creek Township, and after leaving school took up agricultural pursuits, which he has made his life work. After spending some years with his father on the home farm, he rented a farm in Brown Township, and while operating it led the life of a bachelor.

On October 9, 1880, he was married to Amelia W. Fritsch, a daughter of August and Barbara (Wrote) Fritsch, farming people of Mercer County, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Houser are the parents of two children—Lilly Pearl and August M. Lilly Pearl, born April 10, 1882, married Paul F. Berdier, and they have two children, Elden and Julia Lucille. August M. Houser, born September 19, 1886, is a veterinary surgeon at Versailles, Darke County, Ohio.

Mr. James B. Houser served eighteen years as constable of Spring Creek Township, but finally declined to act in that office any longer. He has also served several terms as school director and as road supervisor, and was one of the committee that built the Fairview schoolhouse in Spring Creek Township. In politics he is a Democrat, and he is one of the charter members of Fletcher Lodge, Knights of Pythias. The family attend the Methodist Church. The parental homestead, on which Mr. Houser now resides, includes eight acres of timber, all the rest being farm land. In Mr. Houser's hands the land is made to yield the maximum crops and the buildings kept in good repair. Mr. Houser is a worthy representative of that important class of citizens upon whose labors depends in large measure our national prosperity.

WILLIAM EVERETT HOGAN, M.D.,* a physician and surgeon occupying a prominent place among the medical men of Miami County, has a practice that covers considerable territory but maintains his home at Fredericksburg, Ohio. He was born at Portsmouth, Scioto County, Ohio, October 20, 1869, and is a son of John W. and Maria Jane (Noel) Hogan.

The Hogan family originated in Ireland. The paternal grandfather, Cornelius Hogan, was born in Montreal, Canada. He was a carpenter and farmer, and also a soldier, serving in the War of 1812 and in the Mexican War. On the maternal side, Dr. Hogan's ancestry goes back to France and his great-grandfather came to Ohio at a very early time, bringing with him his thirteen sons, having previously lived at Jamestown, Virginia. In that historic place, Grandfather Peter Noel was born. He married Mary Goldsburg, who was of English extraction but was born in Maryland, and they settled in Scioto County, Ohio, in 1800.

John W. Hogan, father of Dr. Hogan, was born in the city of New Orleans, Louisiana, on Jackson Square, in 1845. He was left an orphan when young and in 1858 was sent to Darlington, Ohio, to complete his education. He enlisted for service in the Civil War soon after hostilities began and was a veteran of Company E, Thirty-third Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in which he served for three years, eleven months and ten days. He married Maria Jane Noel and they reside in comfort in Scioto County, on their farm in the vicinity of Portsmouth. They had seven children born to them, the three survivors being Edwin W., Martha J. and William Everett. Edwin J. Hogan resides on Silver Fox Island, in Puget Sound, where he is interested in growing apples. He married Bessie Lowery. Martha J. is the wife of Frank Ford, of Portsmouth, Ohio.

Dr. Hogan completed the public school course at Portsmouth, and after graduating from the High School, entered upon the study of medicine. After four years of preparation he was graduated at the Miami Medical College of Cincinnati, in 1896. After a few months of practice at Portsmouth, Dr. Hogan came to Fredericksburg, where he has continued to reside, building up a large and lucrative practice and becoming one of the leading citizens of this section.

Dr. Hogan married Miss Abbie B. Grainminger, a daughter of John J. and Rachel (Thomas) Grainminger. Her paternal grandfather, Leonard Grainminger, came to Scioto County, Ohio, from Reading, Penna., at a very early day. Her father, the late John J. Grainminger, was born eight miles north of Portsmouth, Ohio. He was a farmer all his active life. His death occurred in 1907, when aged seventy-five years. His widow still survives. She is a daughter of Benjamin and Charity Thomas and a granddaughter of James and Catherine (McVeigh) Thomas. James Thomas was drowned in the Mississippi River. His widow survived until her ninety-seventh year. The grandparents of Mrs. Hogan settled near Piqua, in Miami County. Dr. and Mrs. Hogan have one son, who was born June 2, 1898, and attends the public school.

Politically, Dr. Hogan is affiliated with the Republican party. He belongs to Aurora Lodge, No. 48, F. & A. M. and to the Junior Order of American Mechanics. He is identified with numerous medical organizations, including the Miami County Medical Society and the Ohio State Medical Society.

FELIX GANGLOFF,* residing on the old homestead farm of 240 acres, which is situated in Section 26, Washington Township, was born on this farm in 1861, and is a son of Nicholas and Mary (Clouse) Gangloff. The parents of Mr. Gangloff were both born in Germany and came to America when aged about eighteen years. Nicholas Gangloff located first at Somerset, Perry County, Ohio, and there he later married Mary Clouse. Immediately afterward they came to Miami County and went to housekeeping on the present farm where the remainder of their lives were spent. Nicholas Gangloff died in 1898, at the age of eighty-seven years, and his widow died in May, 1905, aged eighty-five years. Nicholas Gangloff was considered a very successful farmer during his active years and an excellent business man, having acquired a large amount of property both in Miami County and also in Piqua. Both he and wife were devoted members of the German Catholic Church. They had seven children born to them, namely: Celia, who resides with her brother Felix on the old homestead and with him owns the property; Aplonia, who is a sister in a convent in Cincinnati; Lucy, also a sister, who died in a convent at Lafayette, Indiana; Anthony, who resides in Missouri and has been a railroad man for many years; Felix; John; and George, who died in infancy.

Felix Gangloff has always resided on the home farm, as has his eldest sister. They manage it together, having a tenant who does a large part of the work and lives in one of the farm houses. Mr. and Miss Gangloff reside in a fine brick residence. This farm is one of the most valuable in Washington Township and one of the best improved. The family is well known and is held in the highest esteem.

RICHARD H. SOTHERLAND, Jr.,* superintendent of the Troy Wagon Works, at Troy, Ohio, was born in this city on February 13, 1872, and is a son of Richard Sotherland. The latter is court bailiff of Miami County and for years has been identified with the public affairs of both city and county.

Richard H. Sotherland was reared at Troy and obtained his education in the schools of his native city. His first business position was a clerkship in a local grocery store and for about four years he was freight clerk for the C., H. & D. Railroad, after which he became an employe of the Troy Wagon Works Company, with which he has been connected for fifteen years, during eight of which he has been superintendent. He owns stock in the enterprise, which is one of the most prosperous at Troy. He takes an interest in public matters and is serving his second term as a member of the Board of Public Service.

In 1891 Mr. Sotherland was married to Miss Edith Harshbarger, of Van Wert, Ohio, and they have six children, namely: Cyril, Fay, Helen, Paul, Kenneth and Inez. Mr. Sotherland is an enthusiastic Elk, at the present time serving in the office of exalted ruler and belonging also to the Elks Club.

GEORGE W. SHEPARD,* one of Lost Creek Township's representative citizens and leading business men, resides on his valuable farm of 156 acres, which is situated on the county line of Miami County. He was born in October, 1856, in Montgomery County, Ohio, and is a son of Ezra and Jane R. (Hufford) (Davidson) Shepard.

Ezra Shepard spent his whole life in Montgomery County, Ohio. The business he followed was the digging of wells. He married Mrs. Jane R. Davidson, widow of Francis Davidson and a daughter of John Hufford. The Huffords came to Ohio from Maryland. Mrs. Shepard lived into extreme old age, her death occurring in February, 1909, when within ten days of her ninety-fourth birthday. At that time she was the oldest woman in Lost Creek Township. Of the children born to her first marriage, two survive, Jacob and Daniel. One son died in the army and one at Camp Chase, during the Civil War, and another was drowned.

George Washington Shepard was the only child of his parents and he lived at home until his marriage. During the summer of 1874 he worked for Michael Leffel, south of Springfield, having come with his mother to Miami County, in 1871. In 1882 he bought forty acres of his present farm from John Wilson, seventy-five and one-half acres from Elijah Priest and the remainder from George Ralston. He owns an additional farm of twenty-eight acres situated in Champaign County. He carries on general farming and raises tobacco on twelve acres, and for some years he has been interested in the horse and hog business. He belongs to a horse company that owns Defiance, which is a French draft horse, three years old, weighing 1,850 pounds; and a registered Percheron, Rosier, a three-year-old, weighing 1,500 pounds. The stables are on Mr. Shepard's farm. He also has a stable horse, Rube, a French and Belgian, weighing 1,500 pounds. In addition to cultivating his own land he operates a part of the old Leffel farm. Formerly he was in partnership in a butcher shop at Addison, under the firm name of Breganier & Shepard and in the well drilling firm of Stephens & Shepard. He is a man of excellent business judgment and his advice is frequently asked by his less successful neighbors.

On December 6, 1886, Mr. Shepard was married to Miss Emma Leffel, a daughter of Martin S. and Catherine (Huffman) Leffel, and they have had five children, namely: Delores, who attended college at Columbus and is employed in that city as a bookkeeper; Sylvia, who graduated from the Christianburg High School, attended the Miami University at Oxford, and is a popular teacher in the public schools; Otis, who is a graduate of the Addison High School, and a successful teacher in Champaigne County; and Ruth and Paul. Mr. Shepard's family is an unusually intellectual one and he has afforded his children every advantage he has been able. Politically he is a Democrat, but has always been too busy to accept public office. He is a member of the Odd Fellows at Addison and belongs also to the Encampment.

ZENAS PIERCE,* who for twelve years has served as justice of the peace at Pleasant Hill, is one of the substantial as well as representative men of this section, owning two improved town properties and an excellent farm of forty-six acres situated in Newton Township. He was born in Union Township, Miami County, Ohio, April 17, 1834, and is a son of Samuel and Millie (Iddings) Pierce.

Samuel Pierce was born in Pennsylvania, October 15, 1785, and lived to be seventy-eight years of age. His parents took him to Virginia when eight years old and when nineteen he came to Ohio and located in Miami County, building the third log cabin that was erected in West Milton. He was a carpenter and wagonmaker by trade. Although he acquired many farms he did little actual farm work after clearing up his first property, finding profitable employment for his time in work at his trade and also in dealing in farm lands and in stock. He had fourteen farms at one time and to each of his twelve children he gave a good property. He was a Republican in politics and served for two terms as county commissioner. On May 3, 1810, he married Millie Iddings and they had the following children: Ruth, Margaret, Malinda, Gainer A., Almira, Samuel, William, Hannah, Mary, John, Clarkson, Zenas and Benjamin, the last mentioned of whom died an infant.

Zenas Pierce attended the district school in Union Township nearest his home and then worked on the farm for his father until he reached his majority and then went to farming for himself in the same neighborhood and remained on the farm until he was about forty-five years old and then conducted a hardware store at Bradford for seven years, after which he moved his store to Pleasant Hill. He soon took so active an interest in the public affairs of the place that he was elected a member of the town council and subsequently justice of the peace, in which office he has served his fellow citizens to their entire satisfaction, dispensing justice impartially and according to legal procedure. He has been a zealous Republican ever since he cast his vote for John C. Fremont for President of the United States.

Mr. Pierce was married (first) September 6, 1854, to Elizabeth McCormick, who died May 2, 1880. Her parents were Jacob and Hannah (Hiatt) McCormick, the latter being a daughter of William and Elizabeth Hiatt. The children of Jacob McCormick and wife were: Amy, Sylvanus, Lacy, Nancy, Eliza, Robert, Elizabeth, Rohanna, Aaron, Lewis, Hannah, Jennie, Margaret and William. Jacob McCormick resided on his farm of 160 acres in Franklin County, Indiana, and also owned eighty acres in Stark County. He died in February, 1871, and his burial was at Marion, Indiana. In politics he was a Republican. He was a member of the United Brethren Church. Mr. Pierce was married (second) September 27, 1880, to Hannah Jennie McCormick, a sister to his first wife. He has seven children, all born to the first union: Clarkson, John, Hannah, Samuel, Abraham S., Zenas and Roland N.

For a period of thirty-five years, Mr. Pierce has been a member of the lodge of Odd Fellows at Pleasant Hill, in which he has passed all the chairs. He is also a charter member of the local Grange. His religious connection is with the Society of Friends, in Union Township.

SAMUEL CARRIE BECHTOL,* merchant and assistant postmaster at Brandt, where he does a business of $5,000 annually, was born at Brandt, Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio, August 21, 1873, and is a son of Joseph and Helen (Blessinger) Bechtol.

Joseph Bechtol was born in the town of German, Ohio, and obtained his education in the schools of Darke County, after which he learned the blacksmith's trade and in that capacity established himself at Brandt. Later he engaged in a mercantile business in Adams County, Indiana, eight months later moved to Greenville, where he followed merchandizing for twenty-one months, and then conducted a store at Brandt for three years. Mr. Bechtol then closed out his stock and resumed work as a blacksmith. For a time he resided on his farm of forty acres, which he had inherited from his father, in Darke County, and which is now operated as a truck and nursery farm by his oldest son, Charles Bechtol. Mr. Bechtol has not been active in business for some time, his health not being of the best. He has been postmaster at Brandt since 1905 and is a stanch supporter of the Republican party. He married a daughter of G. W. Blessinger and they have four children: Charles, who married Maude Brown, daughter of Hiram Brown, of Brandt; George Harrison, who married Emma, daughter of John Harness; Samuel Carrie; and Joseph Earl, who married Grace Allen, daughter of Jackson Allen, and has one son, Howard J.

Samuel Carrie Bechtol obtained his education at Brandt and Greenville, Ohio, and began to earn his first money by acting as a clerk in a grocery store, about 1899, and he has continued to be interested in the mercantile line ever since and now owns a first-class store stocked with general merchandise. In addition to this he conducts a wholesale and retail ice cream business and he owns four town lots at

Brandt. Ever since his marriage he has lived continuously at Brandt and is one of the town's most representative citizens.

On February 22, 1903, Mr. Bechtol was married to Miss Velma Iola Brown, a daughter of Hiram and Hattie (Gantz) Brown, and they have two children, Feta Iola, residing at home, and an infant. Mr. Bechtol was reared in the German Reformed Church, of which his parents are worthy members.

JOHN C. RUDY,* who comes of an old and well known family of Newton Township, Miami County, Ohio, is the owner of eighty acres of land in Section 15, Range 5. He follows general farming and tobacco raising, and in addition has for many years been engaged in the threshing business. He was born in Newton Township, May 28, 1868, and is a son of Levi and Susan (Deeter) Rudy.

Levi Rudy was born in Newton Township, Miami County, where his father was among the pioneer settlers. He attended the primitive schools of his boyhood days and at an early age began farming. He first owned a farm in Section 9, Newton Township, which he later sold to a brother, and then bought sixty acres in Section 4, which is now owned by his heirs. He died March 2, 1907, and was buried in the Covington Cemetery. He married Susan Deeter, a daughter of Abraham and Mary Deeter, and she now resides in Covington. The following were born of this union: Charles, John, Hannah, Samuel, Theodore, who died at the age of two years, and Jesse. Religiously, Mr. Rudy was a member of the German Baptist Church. He was a Democrat in politics.

John C. Rudy first attended school in district No. 10, Newton Township, and grew to maturity on the home farm. When a young man he embarked in the threshing business for himself, and for a period of twenty-nine years has followed this business with good results. After his marriage he settled on a farm in Section 4, Newton Township, but later purchased of the M. L. Mowery heirs his present farm of eighty acres, all of which is cleared and well improved but six acres. He has made many of the improvements on the place, including the erection of a tobacco shed and a corn crib, but the main buildings were standing at the time of its purchase by him. He has from eight to twelve acres in tobacco each year, but otherwise follows mixed farming. He also farms the old home place.

July 10, 1898, Mr. Rudy was united in marriage with Miss Della Furlong, a daughter of Samuel and Christiana Furlong, and they have one son living, Harold, who is attending the public schools. Two daughters, Ivy and Elma, died in infancy. Politically, Mr. Rudy is a Democrat, but aside from the office of township supervisor has filled no official positions.

BERT A. REED,* who is serving in his second term as city auditor of Piqua, Ohio, is a member of the Piqua bar and a public spirited and progressive citizen. He was born at Piqua, in 1878, and is a son of E. C. Reed, who is engaged in the carriage manufacturing business.

Mr. Reed was reared in his native place and attended the Piqua schools and after graduating from the High School, entered Phillips Academy, at Exeter, New Hampshire, going from there to the Ohio State University, where he was graduated in law in 1900. After practicing his profession for about eight months at Tippecanoe City, he returned to Piqua; where he has been more or less prominent in public life ever since. In 1901 he was elected a justice of the peace and city clerk, and subsequently, under the new code, city auditor, an office he has acceptably filled ever since. In 1904 Mr. Reed was married to Miss Bessie E. Cathcart, of Piqua, and they have one son, Edward. Mr. and Mrs. Reed attend the Presbyterian Church. He is a member of the Junior Order of American Mechanics, belongs to the Odd Fellows and is a Master Mason.

IRA JACKSON,* president of the Board of County Commissioners of Miami County, a body of intelligent and public-spirited men, is a prominent citizen and a representative agriculturist, having resided all his life on a farm. He was born in 1867, in Butler Township, Montgomery County, Ohio, near the line of Miami County. J. L. Jackson, the father of Ira Jackson, was born in Pennsylvania, where he grew to manhood. In 1864 he came to Ohio and located in Montgomery County and still resides on his farm in Butler Township.

Ira Jackson was reared and educated in Montgomery County and continued to reside there until after his marriage in 1892. He then moved to a farm in Union Township, Miami County, which he continued to cultivate and improve until 1906, when he purchased his present valuable farm of 175 acres, which is situated in Monroe Township. Mr. Jackson has thus been identified with agricultural pursuits all his life and is one of the leading farmers and stock raisers of this section of Ohio. For a number of years he has made a specialty of Duroc Jersey swine and his annual sale, in February, is always eagerly anticipated by other breeders of fine stock. On December 16, 1892, Mr. Jackson was married to Miss Minnie Eidemiller, who was born and reared in Miami County, a daughter of the late George W. Eidemiller, a well known citizen.

Mr. Jackson is a prominent factor in politics in Miami County and has frequently served in offices of responsibility. He was first elected county commissioner in November, 1902, and was re-elected in 1905 and made president of the board, his present term expiring on the third Monday in September, 1909. He is affiliated with the Masons and the Odd Fellows and belongs also to the International Stock Exposition of Chicago and to the American and National Duroc Jersey Association.

SAMUEL M. FETTER,* a well known resident of Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio, is the owner of 130 acres of farm land located three miles north of Bradford. He was born on this farm, December 7, 1861, and is a son of Jacob and Catherine (Brumbaugh) Fetter.

Jacob Fetter was born about one mile east of the farm above mentioned, and was a son of Samuel Fetter, who was one of the pioneers of Newberry Township. Jacob was an early day school teacher and for more than forty years was a school director. He held numerous other local offices and was a prominent man of the township. He lived to reach the advanced age of ninety years. He was first married to Anna Hogan, by whom he had four children. His second union was with Catherine Brumbaugh, who also was born in Newberry Township and was a daughter of

Jacob Brumbaugh, who came from Pennsylvania. They also had four children.

Samuel M. Fetter was reared on the home farm and attended the schools of this locality. He has been in the threshing business ever since he was fourteen years of age, and has also dealt in horses for the same length of time. He raises a high grade of Percheron-Norman horses and has been more than ordinarily successful in that branch of his business. In addition he follows general farming. He erected a fine barn on the home place in 1901, and two years later built the comfortable frame house in which he lives. Mr. Fetter was united in marriage with Miss Henrietta Miller, who is a daughter of Abraham Miller, and they have three children—Myrtle May, who is the wife of Ashley Routson and has two children, Mildred and Marcella; Otto; and Raymond Le Roy. Mr. Fetter is a man of wide acquaintance and is held in high esteem.

MORRIS J. STILWELL,* for many years a prominent farmer of Washington Township, Miami County, Ohio, is now retired from active operations. His farm, located about three miles southwest of Piqua, was recently sold, and he and his estimable wife will in the spring of 1909 locate on West Boone Street, Piqua.

Mr. Stilwell was born on a farm in Staunton Township, Miami County, Ohio, October 27, 1840, and is a son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Sayers) Stilwell. Joseph Stilwell was born in New Jersey and was first married there to a Miss Claypole, by whom he had three children. As a young man he came west to Miami County, Ohio, and here he formed a second union with Elizabeth Sayers. She was born in Pennsylvania in 1804, and was four years of age when her father, Thomas Sayers, moved with his family to Miami County, Ohio, settling southeast of Casstown.

Morris J. Stilwell was reared on a farm in Staunton Township and attended the local schools. He was scarcely twenty-two years of age when, on August 12, 1862, he enlisted for service in the Union Army as a member of Company A, 110th Regiment, Ohio Vol. Inf. He participated in many important engagements, eighteen in number, and September 19, 1864, was wounded at O'Puken Creek, Virginia. He was honorably discharged at Providence, Rhode Island, July 7, 1865. At the close of the war he returned home and resumed farming, which has been his occupation throughout his entire career. In 1882 he and his wife located upon the farm on which they have since lived.

Mr. Stilwell was married March 20, 1866, to Miss Angeline Darnold, who was born and reared in Piqua, and is a daughter of William and Mary (Jones) Darnold. William Darnold was born in Fauquier County, Virginia, and was about ten years of age when his father, William Darnold, Sr., moved to Kentucky, settling on a farm near Carrollton. There the father died, and when about twenty-one years old, William, Jr., came to Piqua, Ohio, where he worked as a mason. He was the contractor in the construction of the First Baptist Church in this city. At the age of twenty-eight he was married for the third time. His first wife was a Miss McFarland and lived but four months after marriage. He was married a second time to Miss Mary Mitchell, whose death occurred four years after their union. His third marriage was with Miss Mary Jones, a daughter of Caleb and Susan (Anderson) Jones, who were early residents of Miami County. Mr. Jones located on a farm three miles east of Piqua on the Urbana Pike and lived there until his seventy-fifth year, when he sold out and moved to Piqua. His wife, Susan Anderson in maiden life, was born in Kentucky but was a mere baby when her parents came to Miami County. Her father was a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

Morris J. Stilwell and his wife became parents of the following children: Mary Elizabeth, who died at the age of seven years of typhoid fever; William Morris, who died of typhoid fever within eight days of the death of his sister, being five years old at the time; Harold Clifford; Joseph Creighton; and Charles Carroll. Harold Clifford Stilwell, who is in the lumber business at Helena, Arkansas, married Miss Amma Angle, a daughter of Henry Angle of Piqua. Joseph Creighton Stilwell, who is in the real estate business in Denver, Colorado, married Miss Anna Thompson of Rochester, New York, and they have two children, Mary Elizabeth and Dorothy Margaret. Charles C. Stilwell married Miss Jean Thompson of Rochester, New York, and lives in Denver, where he has charge of the repair department of the National Cash Register Company. Clifford and Charles Stilwell were members of the Third Regiment of Ohio Infantry during the Spanish-American War, and were stationed at Tampa, Florida. Morris J. Stilwell and his wife are members of the First Baptist Church of Piqua, of which he is a deacon.

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